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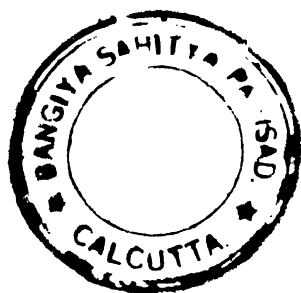
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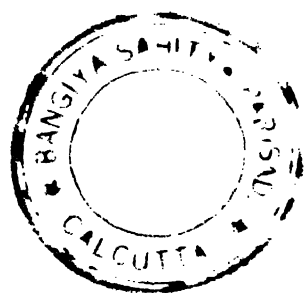
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THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR

JULY, 1827.



Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

EAST-INDIA AND WEST-INDIA TRADE.

IN our last number we adverted to the discussion which had taken place in Parliament on the subject of British commerce with India, and took the opportunity of laying before our readers some statements of the amount of the import and export trade between this country and the East-Indies, which had not at that time been printed.

In the first copy of the statement of the official value of imports into the United Kingdom from the East-Indies and China, a clerical error was committed by the copyist (the accounts being in manuscript) in one of the totals, making it a million less than the two constituent sums showed that it ought to be, which led to an observation of the writer, that "the average amount of the aggregate imports for the thirteen years is £6,148,366, which, instead of shewing an increase (as stated by Mr. Whitmore), is less than the amount of imports in 1814 by just £250,000;"—a misprint for £150,000. This clerical error was discovered and corrected; but owing to the hurry in which the article went through the press* (at the very end of the month), whereby the editor was prevented from subjecting the calculations to examination, the erroneous inference was nevertheless suffered to stand. The real average amount is £7,148,366, shewing an increase of £849,980 in comparison with the amount of imports in 1814. The mistake must be obvious enough, and does not affect the argument of the writer, which tended to demonstrate that no marvellous augmentation appeared even in the import trade, notwithstanding the exorbitant speculations which had taken place in East-India commodities, and to which much of the apparent increase must be attributed.

The exports to India formed the principal ground of Mr. Whitmore's statement respecting the prodigious augmentation of our trade with India since the opening of that trade to private merchants, and it is on this part of the

* From the same cause, the imports of tea (p. 767) are represented as *value* instead of *quantity*, which must be evident from the figures.

the question that we are at issue with him. The official accounts from whence our figures were borrowed are now printed, and it will be seen from thence that the statement in our last number is perfectly correct.

Extending our inquiries still higher than that statement allows, we find ample reason to think that our export trade to India has not increased of late years in so great a ratio as in preceding years, and consequently that it is unfair to assume that the augmentation, which has undoubtedly taken place in this branch of our commerce, has arisen altogether from the admission of private traders to a participation therein. The following table will show the value of exports to the East-Indies and China from the United Kingdom since the year 1790, and the average amount, as far as practicable, in equal periods. It is proper to state that the figures for the years up to 1811 inclusive, are borrowed from Mr. Moreau's work on the East-India trade, &c., who quotes the Parliamentary papers stated below * as the sources from whence they were taken.

A statement of the value of Exports from the United Kingdom to the East-Indies and China from the year 1791 to the year 1826, both inclusive.

	Total value. £.	Average value. £.
Five years from 1791 to 1795	8,121,786	1,624,357
————— 1796 to 1800	10,545,607	2,109,121
————— 1801 to 1805	15,477,192	3,095,438
————— 1806 to 1810	16,516,774	3,303,355
In the year ... 1811† ———	.....	3,059,137
Five years from 1814 to 1818	17,491,379	3,498,276
————— 1819 to 1823	20,270,795	4,054,159
Three years from 1824 to 1826	12,900,619	4,300,206

It is needless to encumber the reader with calculations; it must be evident that in the progressive increase which has taken place in the amount of our exports to India, the ratio has been less of late years than at earlier periods.

Our object in the present article is to institute some comparisons, which the Parliamentary accounts furnish the means of doing, between the state of the East-India and that of the West-India trade. It has been frequently alleged that the latter is the more important of the two to the mother country, and a very strong argument in favour of the colonists has been drawn, or attempted to be drawn, from the large amount of the commerce between this country and the West-Indies compared with that we carry on with the East. Let us see how far this is the fact.

We shall commence with the imports. The following is an account of the official value of goods imported into the United Kingdom, during the last thirteen years, from the East and West-Indies.

Years.	From the East-Indies and China. £.	From the West- Indies. £.
1814	6,298,386	9,022,309
1815	8,038,736	8,903,260
1816	8,310,697	7,847,895
1817	7,687,278	8,326,926
1818	7,337,689	8,608,790
1819	7,537,563	8,188,539
1820	7,562,647	8,354,512

1821

* Papers 1813, No. 192; 1818, No. 414; 1820, No. 232; 1823, No. 313.

† The records of the years 1812 and 1813 are destroyed.

Years.	From the East-Indies and China.	From the West- Indies.
	£.	£.
1821	6,233,571	8,367,477
1822	5,106,400	8,019,764
1823	6,918,540	8,425,259
1824	7,312,355	9,065,546
1825	6,582,058	7,932,832
1826	8,002,838	8,283,507

Hence it appears that the amount of each trade is now pretty nearly equal; and that whilst the difference between the value of eastern commodities imported in 1814 and in 1826 is an excess of £1,704,452 in the latter; the difference between the value of commodities from our colonies in the west, imported in the same years, is a falling-off to the amount of £738,802. The quantities of the principal articles of the imports confirm this fact, and show, indeed, that the trade is diminishing even to a still greater extent than the total imports authorize us to assume. The importation of sugar has been steady at upwards of three millions of cwts. Rum has fallen from 6,496,505 gallons in 1814, to 4,003,799 gallons in 1826. Coffee has shrunk from 47,628,644 lbs. in 1814, to 25,225,009 lbs. in 1826. Of cocoa, which was imported in 1814 to the amount of 2,306,101 lbs., there was imported in 1826 only 638,554 lbs. Lastly, of cotton-wool there was imported in 1814, 14,916,957 lbs., and in 1826 only 4,751,059 lbs. These are the only articles particularized in the official accounts, and the defalcation is surprising.

Let us now proceed to the exports, of which the following statement exhibits an account of the value for the last thirteen years.

Years.	To the East-Indies and China.*		To the British West-Indies.	
	Official Value.	Declared Value.	Official Value.	Declared Value.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
1814	1,696,404	2,559,033	6,622,138	7,356,546
1815	2,064,566	3,166,962	7,196,081	7,662,303
1816	2,185,642	3,378,758	4,853,228	4,806,286
1817	2,779,626	4,022,642	7,015,591	6,273,082
1818	3,185,751	4,363,984	5,989,707	6,294,117
1819	2,373,556	3,027,286	4,692,414	5,138,453
1820	3,272,811	3,987,528	4,561,246	4,512,224
1821	4,303,045	4,809,678	5,311,677	4,691,383
1822	3,875,934	4,088,847	4,370,100	3,682,944
1823	4,355,431	4,357,456	4,899,271	3,961,987
1824	4,394,800	4,200,828	5,167,931	4,153,065
1825	3,945,076	3,960,432	4,997,270	4,161,855
1826	4,877,133	4,739,359	4,047,293	3,454,492

This statement shows a result more disadvantageous to the West-Indies than the preceding. The declared value of the exports to the West-Indies has fallen off almost exactly in the same proportion in which that of the exports to the east has increased. But this is not all: a very large part of the merchandize sent from this country to the West-India islands is intended for other parts, and passes through the ports of those islands for convenience only. From the Parliamentary Papers of last year, it appears that the declared value of British merchandize

* This account included the exports from Ireland.

merchandise re-exported from our West-India colonies to foreign parts was, in 1824, £1,519,350, and in 1825, £1,014,152. Making these reductions in the gross amount, it will be perceived that the value of the exports to the West-Indies is very considerably less than that of the exports to India.

Lest it should be imagined that, in respect to our staple manufactures, the exports to the west occasion a larger demand upon the productive industry of this country, we subjoin a few particulars, which will shew precisely the contrary.

No woollens (of course) are exported to the West-Indies. The East took last year 296,563 yards of cloths, camblets, serges, and other woollen goods, the declared value of which was £1,197,909, of which the East-India Company's exports amounted to £921,852.

Manufactured cottons, white and printed, were exported to the West-Indies in 1814 to the amount of 32,878,565 yards, the declared value of which was £2,100,846. In 1826 only 19,292,606 yards were exported, the value of which was £734,418! In this very year, the exports of cotton manufactures (exclusive of twist and yarn) exported to the East-Indies amounted to 26,225,103 yards; the declared value of which, with other manufactured cottons, was £1,059,471.

These are the two principal articles of British manufacture, the external demand for which it is the interest and the object of our Legislature to increase. The East-Indies take off the value of £2,257,380 in these articles, and the demand in this quarter is increasing; the West-India colonies take to the value of £734,418 only, and their demand is diminishing, in a very material degree, every year.

It is not necessary to urge any further arguments to show the futility of the pretensions put forth by those writers who claim for the West-India colonists privileges and protection, to the prejudice of the eastern trade, and who found their claims upon the superior benefits which their commerce confers on the manufacturing interests of Great Britain.

LAGMENT OF KOCHANOWSKI.*

Would thou hadst ne'er been born—or being born
 Hadst left me not, sweet infant! thus forlorn:
 I have paid lasting woe for fleeting bliss—
 A dark farewell, a speechless pang like this:
 Thou wert the brightest, fairest dream of sleep;
 And as the miser cherishes his heap
 Of gold, I held thee: soon 'twas fled—and nought
 Left but the dreary vacancies of thought,
 That once was blessedness.—And *thou* art fled,
 Whose fairy vision floated in my head
 And play'd around my heart.—And *thou* art gone,
 Gone with my joys; and I am left alone:
 Half of my soul took flight with thee, the rest
 Clings to thy broken shadow in my breast.

Come raise her tombstone, sculptor! Let there be
 This simple offering to her memory,—
 "Her father's love;—his Ursula lies here,
 His love;—Alas! his tears, his misery.
 Thine was a barbarous mandate, death! The tear
 I drop for her, she should have shed for me."

* From Mr. Bowring's *Polish Anthology*.

NEW SETTLEMENT AT WESTERN PORT IN AUSTRALIA.

AMONGST the places on the coast of New Holland, which have been recommended as eligible spots for new settlements, is Western Port, situated in about 38 degrees of south latitude, and in about 145° 45' of east longitude, distant somewhat less than 500 miles southward on a direct line by land, from Sydney. From the flattering description of the country in this part given by Mr. Hovell, one of the persons by whom part of the coast of this vast island has been surveyed, and from its obvious advantages in respect to Bass's Straits, it was chosen as the spot for the formation of a new settlement, and an expedition was accordingly fitted out from Sydney in November last for that purpose: it consisted of his Majesty's ship *Fly*, Capt. Wetherall, with two other vessels containing a number of convicts, and a party of military, with stores, &c. We are furnished with several reports, from the Sydney newspapers, of the proceedings of the expedition, which arrived at its destination in sixteen days from the time of leaving Port Jackson, notwithstanding some strong gales and heavy weather.

In standing in for the entrance of Port Western, they passed on the right several rocky and singularly formed islets, lying off the S.W. point of Philip Island, which receives on its southernmost side the rolling waters of Bass's Straits, and forms an extensive natural barrier, crossing the mouth of the harbour. One of the smaller islets is of rather a singular pyramidal form, but considerably flattened at top; its barren sides raise themselves abruptly from the waves which are continually roaring around, and lashing them with their heavy spray. On another islet several sealers appeared in anxious pursuit of their amphibious prey. As the vessels ranged along Philip Island, the face of the country became pleasingly varied; patches of open land, irregularly dispersed, and cheating the eye with the semblance of having been cleared by the united hands of art and nature, here and there usurped the places of barren brush and apparently close impenetrable forest land, which occupied a principal portion of the country extending along a flanking range of hills, and as far as the eye could discern. Some men (Europeans) dressed in seal skins, and accompanied by a number of dogs, appeared along the shores; and shortly after were observed several conical, rudely constructed huts, half hid amongst the prolific honeysuckle, *mimosa*, and gaudy *acacia pendula*, which had sprung up there and flourished, unassisted and unregarded. These people, it afterwards appeared, were a party of sealers; they had come over from Port Dalrymple, and mustered seven in number. One or two spoke of having continued on the island for several preceding years. Some black native women, whom they had managed to carry off from the main land, lived with them. They seemed extremely fond of each other's society!

Capt. Wetherall's first care being to obtain an accurate acquaintance with the harbour and places offering the best inducements for fixing a settlement upon, boats were despatched on survey in different directions, and a party commenced clearing away a commanding portion of the island, situate nearly opposite to the anchorage. Near this point the country towards the interior is thinly timbered, and partially covered with a long tough species of natural grass, on which the stock appeared to thrive. A hut had been already constructed there, and a well dug by some sealers, who in their excursions up the harbour frequently refreshed in this port. At high tide the water of the well became brackish, and indeed was at no time remarkably limpid. This sandy beach
forms

forms the only good landing along the northern extent of Philip Island; a low mud flat making its appearance all along to the eastward at half ebb. A great portion of the overhanging wood which crowned the sides of the hill being cleared, and a sort of glacis formed, so as to command the landing place, this battery was named Fort Dumaresq.

It was round a point of the main land, distant about nine miles N. and E. from the south-east extreme of l'Isle des Français, and N. 2°, or nearly so, from Fort Dumaresq, on Philip Island, where the land appeared to be of the most luxuriant description, and from whence the eye might wander undisturbed and delighted over some of the most wild and fantastical, rich and unstudied scenes of natural loveliness, to be found in any country, that the new settlement was determined to be formed. The shore at half flood is accessible to boats, and a small stream of fresh water runs at no great distance. The soil around the settlement for some miles is rich and productive. The timber, which is indeed in every part of the circumjacent country as yet explored not of the most majestic kind, appears diversely scattered about in clumps, and extends in this manner, it is imagined, with little variation towards Bass's River, which discharges itself among the flats to the southward of the settlement, but continues salt for six miles up from its entrance on the eastern shore of Western Port. On this part of the harbour, the military party, prisoners, government stock, and provisions were landed, under the directions of Capt. Wright, of the Buffs, who acts as commandant.

Roads have already been cut (one of which, running in a direction S.W. towards the sea, has already been carried the length of three miles), huts built, gardens planted, and wells sunk. The want of water seems the great evil at present; none of a good quality has yet been obtained; after digging to fifteen and sixteen feet the water still retains a brackish taste. The sealers hold out some hopes of a stream of water being hid behind a range of hills which look out on the sea. A stratum of coal has also been mentioned as existing on the island. The soil on many parts is of a rich arable nature; and, to judge from the products of a small garden formed by the sealers near their huts, on which no great labour had been expended, promises most favourably. The island is nearly overrun with timber of a stunted growth, and low scrub, or thick, but yielding underwood. The tea-tree, honeysuckle, beef-wood, and several kinds of *mimosa*, generally prevail; but here, as well as on the main land, neither remarkable for majestic beauty or utility. The interior bears in many instances marks of an extensive conflagration; the sealers attribute it to some runaways from Van Diemen's Land, or elsewhere. The number of flowering shrubs and plants is considerable. Samphire roots itself in abundance among the rocks, and a wild vegetable which flourishes luxuriantly, and when boiled is not a bad substitute for French beans, is equally abundant. In the woods, the garrulous notes of the mocking bird, of iris-coloured loories, and parroquets, the harsh screams of the black cockatoo, and plaintive cooings of numberless woodquests, resound incessantly; whilst quail and partridge start from under the feet of every new explorer, and again plunge in amongst the thickest underwood. Wallabies were said to frequent the bush land, but none could be captured or even seen by any of the officers, who frequently went in pursuit of them: guanoes and lizards were not so scarce. Black swans cruise about the mud flats round the harbour in considerable numbers; they afford great diversion. Cranes and pelicans are found in considerable numbers along the shores and flats which nourish the spreading mangroves, and which latter obtain principally on the N.E. shore of Philip Island. Mutton birds have

have been taken from their nests, formed of holes in the rocks. Wild ducks, teal, and widgeon, have been shot, but do not appear numerous. The yellow-hooded spurwing is not unfrequently met with; his wings are armed at the tips with a short, ossified, sharp-pointed kind of spear. On the sandy beach to the westward of a lagoon not quite a mile from Fort Dumaresq, the seine has been hauled almost daily, and frequently with some success; but few or none of the finny captives are so good or abundant as the snapper, king fish, whiting, and others of Port Jackson. The snapper is not totally wanting either; a fine one, but one only, having been taken. Sting ray of a very large size, dog fish, mullet, sword fish, toad, trumpet, elephant, dog, pig, horse, porcupine (*diodon histrix*), and even cat fish, have been encircled at one cast of the seine, and hauled upon the beach together. A singularly beautiful fish, probably the sea-leopard, measuring nearly six feet in length, and of a proportionate breadth, was one day netted. Capt. W. caused it to be skinned and preserved, which has been done, but not in so perfect a manner as might be wished; it is well calculated to fix the eye of curiosity. Along the back from the head, which has some resemblance to its fierce namesake, down to the tail, it is elegantly variegated with mottled spots of a palish blue, on a sea-green ground, bordered by the same colour, but of a still deeper hue. One of the two central *testes* has unluckily been alone naturally preserved. Sharks are numerous: one, conjectured to be from fifteen to twenty feet in length, was hooked twice, a musket ball was lodged in his head; he made a desperate plunge and darted off, leaving the hook straight as a pump bolt, and a track of blood dyeing the stream behind him. Several brown snakes, between four and five feet long, are every day taken and destroyed. Near the settlement one of them bit a soldier; the man had sufficient presence of mind to make an excision of the part; his comrade was spirited and charitable enough to suck the wound, and the operation of cauterizing being gone through, the man, though at times oppressed by a creeping lethargy, has quite recovered. An ill-fated pig did not escape so luckily; being bitten, he saved the butcher the labour of using his knife by dying, though not in the way his owners could have wished.

It seems to be generally supposed, and indeed admitted, that Mr. Hovell was never at Western Port, and that the place he visited, and the description of which he gave for that of Western Port, was Port Philip, to the westward of the former. Mr. Hovell accompanied the present expedition, and proposes to penetrate across a distant range of lofty hills, stretching beyond the land to the northward of l'Isle des Français (now called Darling Island), into the district of Argyleshire.

Longer experience of the capabilities of Western Port has discovered that, although it is in many respects admirably situated, it labours under some natural disadvantages which will probably prevent its fulfilling the expectations formed of it. The extensive mud flats (winding more or less across its coasts from Cape Schanck on the west, passing N. and E. beyond the northern shores of Isle Français until they pass the settlement on the east side, and crossing the entrance to Bass's River, and are lost before arriving at the east passage, which separates Philip Island from the main,) form a great and natural impediment to communication from the harbour, and must infinitely retard the march of discovery and improvement towards the interior. As the land, from the internal ranges of upland and lowland country which bound the view of the observer to the northward, descends, it is observed to degenerate from an apparently alternate open and fruitful champaign and hilly country, presenting deep forests and opening vistas, varled with irregularly disposed clumps

of branching trees, to an extensive swamp; which either gives being to, or swallows up, the few inconsiderable streams of water that have been detected by those who coasted round those northern flats at the top of flood, from westward to the settlement, attempting by their efflux to increase the waters of Western Port, and which continues until joined by the circumambient mud banks; the latter perhaps here and there interrupted by a range of mangrove trees. Nor is the anchorage in all parts of the harbour unexceptionable. North-east from Fort Dumaresq, where the *Fly* during her stay remained at anchor up towards the settlement, the channel continues nearly of the same depth, six, seven, and eight fathoms, possesses good, firm, holding ground, and is powerfully protected on all sides from winds by the surrounding lands. On the south-west side of Darling Island twelve fathoms water are met with, but the situation is exposed to winds from the sea. Elizabeth Cove, to the westward of Fort Dumaresq, also affords good anchorage. The country for some miles off where the settlement has been formed, and those parts of the main to the westward immediately opposite, present a flattering picture, as well in foreground as in the perspective. Looking down along the superior slope of the glacis of Fort Dumaresq, from its elevation of sixty feet above the sea, the eye is directed over the scarce ruffled surface of the spacious basin of Port Western, whose blue waters sparkle in the sun, or seem to sleep tranquilly in the moonbeams, until interrupted by the opposite woody shores of Darling Island; on pursuing the sinuous outline of which, to the eastward, the harbour seems gradually to narrow until entirely shut up from the eye by the projecting point of main land, round which the settlement extends itself, and a distant woody offscap. The back ground is lost in woods on woods; and the still farther mainland across the western channel, in the distance, its elevated summit still marking a bold outline between the superior clouds and inferior waters, and continuing so until entirely obscured by the intercepting wood-crowned summits of l'Isle des Français.

The climate of this part of New Holland does not appear subject to those sudden vicissitudes from heat to coolness so common at Sydney. The range of the thermometer was found 61° to 83° on board the ships, and reached somewhat higher on shore, in those places shut out from the influence of the prevailing south-westerly winds, which at times blow violently; and, on more than one occasion, to a day rendered lowering and oppressive from the influence of a parching northerly wind, has succeeded a night of intense darkness, illuminated by the most vivid flashes of lightning.

The latest accounts from Sydney state the return of the *Fly* from Western Port; the newspapers give some intimations that the settlement has proved to be unhealthy. The following information is, however, encouraging:—

Some days before the *Fly* sailed from Western Port, a lagoon, or rather morass, containing several deep gullies, dispersed here and there, and overflowing with good fresh water, was fallen in with. It lies concealed behind a portion of hilly land, which runs for a short distance parallel with, and scarcely 100 yards from, a sandy sea shore, and which latter intervenes with the salt water on the north side of Philip Island, from the western extreme of which the morass is scarcely a mile distant. Necessity, as much as chance, contributed towards the discovery of this valuable object. Some sailors belonging to a party employed in getting up a flag-staff on the pyramidal, and apparently insulated rock, lying off Point Grant, on the west side of Philip Island, having exhausted their supply of water from the ship, ventured farther inland, and fell in with the morass.

SLAVERY IN THE EAST.

SINCE the article on this subject appeared in our Journal,* we have been favoured with copies of the official documents, in Tamil and English, in a case which occurred some years ago in one of the districts under the Madras Government, wherein certain slaves endeavoured to vindicate their title to freedom by an appeal to the British Government. An abstract of the case may afford an elucidation of the slave-system of southern India.

The subject came before the Board of Revenue in the year 1800, upon the receipt of two memorials, one from the alleged master of the slaves, claiming them as his property; the other from the unhappy individuals who sought to be released from that claim. As the former preceded the other in date, we shall begin with that document.

The memorialist, Vencatachellum Moodeliar, represents himself to be a cultivator, holding lands in Erroocoonum and Ullapollum, two villages in the Madras territories. He states that a pariah, who and whose family had served him and his ancestors for four generations, in agricultural labours, withdrew himself, and entered as cook into the service of Europeans, seducing other members of his family to follow his example; that upon application to Mr. Place, the collector, that gentleman caused the pariahs to be seized, and placed in the custody of the poligar at Trivatore, until the head pariahs of Madras inquired into and adjusted the difference. These head men accordingly minutely examined the vouchers adduced by the memorialist in support of his claim, and gave their award, namely, that the individuals referred to should, according to ancient custom, serve as slaves to the memorialist from generation to generation. He proceeds to state, that the slaves thereupon returned for a time to their agricultural duties, but afterwards again withdrew. He then represents, in support of his claim to these men, that it is the invariable custom amongst the native inhabitants of Coromandel to possess punnakaurahs, or pariah slaves, without whom no inhabitant could carry on cultivation, but with great impediment and loss. The memorialist, therefore, claims his slaves, agreeably to the award of the head pariahs, and according to *mamool*, or established custom.

The award referred to, which is dated in 1796, as well as a previous award dated in 1794, by the head men of the pariahs of Madras, are annexed to the memorial. The grounds upon which these head men of the caste to which the slaves belonged decide in favour of the master, are the following. The individuals claiming their freedom are stated to have descended, in the fourth generation, from a woman named Taunee, who executed a bond or deed of slavery, whereby she disposed of herself, her daughters, and all her and their posterity, to the ancestor of Vencatachellum Moodeliar. The descendants of Taunee did, it is stated, serve the ancestors of Vencatachellum Moodeliar for four generations, receiving batta, &c.; and several antecedent awards are referred to, one in 1753, and another in 1773, wherein members of the family of Taunee were pronounced to be the slaves of Vencatachellum and his ancestors. Accordingly the sentence of the arbitrators is, that the recusant labourers return to their master, and that they and their posterity perform their duties of slavery to Vencatachellum, from generation to generation, "as long as the sun and moon shall endure."

The petition of the slaves sets out with an allegation of false pretension, cruelty

* See vol. xxiil. pp. 443 and 503.

cruelty and tyranny exercised towards their persons five years back (1795) by Vencatachellum Moodeliar; and that on account of his ill-treatment, which they could endure no longer, the petitioners made application to Mr. Lewin, then "justice of the peace," who forbade Vencatachellum from claiming them as his slaves, and dismissed them. Vencatachellum, however, soon after seized the petitioners, with the aid of peons, &c., put them in irons, beat them most cruelly, and confined them; finally, lest they should again apply to the magistrate, he conveyed them by night, in chains, to Trivatore (from whence does not appear), where they were kept in confinement for a month, without batta or victuals, till they were carried before Mr. Place, who (they allege) pronounced them (after their case had been investigated by a native officer) not to be the slaves of Vencatachellum Moodeliar.

The report of a native officer of revenue on this memorial, states that the two petitioners, named Poonapen and Vencatasen, who had worked as agricultural slaves for Vencatachellum Moodeliar since 1795, refusing to continue their labour, their master complained to Mr. Place, who directed the aumildar to inquire into the matter. This officer sent them to Trivatore, in fetters, and referred the question to the heads of the pa-charies* at Madras, who awarded in favour of the master, pronouncing the petitioners his slaves. The heads of the branch of the pariah caste to which the petitioners belonged (the officer adds) had executed an agreement, binding themselves to the heads of their caste, to work as agricultural slaves for Vencatachellum. The petitioners' application, therefore, he pronounces to be groundless, and urges that they may be compelled to return "according to the practice of slavery."

The agreement referred to, dated 19th March 1800, and signed (or marked) by two individuals, named Coluttoor Coopen and Maudelumchery Yerrapah, is as follows:—

"As our ancestors were the slaves of Vencatachellum Moodeliar, and from that time to this, being three generations, and we being the descendants of those generations now living, confess ourselves all to be slaves to him the aforesaid Vencatachellum Moodeliar. But whilst performing our slavery-duties to him, we have disputed and staid away, which we acknowledge to be a great fault; and you being the heads of our caste, correcting us and requiring us to do our duty, we bind ourselves and our descendants as slaves to perform our duty accordingly."

We add to the foregoing particulars a statement from amongst the documents of the different sources of slavery, which, it will be seen, corresponds with the accounts furnished in the article referred to. Slaves are of fifteen kinds: 1, one born of a female slave in the house of her master; 2, one purchased; 3, one received by donation; 4, one inherited from ancestors; 5, one maintained in a famine; 6, one pledged by a former master; 7, one relieved from a great debt; 8, one made captive in war; 9, one won in a stake; 10, one who has offered himself thus—"I am thine;" 11, one become an apostate from religious mendicity; 12, one being a slave for a stipulated time; 13, one maintained in consideration of service; 14, one serving for the sake of his bride; 15, one self-sold. The petitioners belonged to the last class, of which the bondage is hereditary and perpetual.

During the past month, copies of the official correspondence between the Court of Directors and the Supreme Government of India, on the subject of Slavery, which were moved for three years back, have been laid upon the table of the House of Commons; but not being ordered to be printed, these curious documents will be inaccessible to the public.

* Places allotted for the huts of the pariah or low-caste slaves and labourers.

THE BRITISH TERRITORIES IN THE DECCAN.

[*Concluded from Vol. XXIII, p. 781.*]

Mr. Elphinstone prefaces the details which he gives of the civil administration with some remarks on the moral character of the people. Falsehood in all shapes, he says, pervades all ranks; adultery and prostitution are common in the upper classes, but in them alone. Drunkenness, the peculiar vice of the lower orders, is almost unknown in the Mahratta country, which has thence a decided superiority in morals over the old provinces. It arises from the discouragement to the sale of spirituous liquors, and as the revenue from that source is insignificant, we should probably do well to prohibit it altogether. Public opinion, and above all the opinion of the caste and the dread of expulsion, are the restraint on vices. These powers are, in the Mahratta country, in the hands of the whole caste. In the Carnatic there are regular censors to each caste called gunnacharies, besides religious gooroos, invested with great power; but these institutions are converted into the means of gain, and the morals of the people are there decidedly worse than in the Mahratta country. The other vices are not more rare, and drunkenness is common in addition.

With respect to the means of improving them, he says that, although education seems to be the only expedient, yet he is not sure that our establishing free-schools would alter the state of things, and it might create a suspicion of some concealed design on our part. There are already schools in all towns and in many villages; but reading is confined to Brahmins, Banyans, and such of the agricultural classes as have to do with accounts. It would, he thinks, be more practicable and more useful to give a direction to the reading of those who do learn, of which the press affords so easily the means.

"Books are scarce, and the common ones probably ill chosen, but there exist in the Hindoo languages many tales and fables that would be generally read, and that would circulate sound morals. There must be religious books tending more directly to the same end. If many of these were printed and distributed cheaply or gratuitously, the effect would, without doubt, be great and beneficial. It would, however, be indispensable that they should be purely Hindoo. We might silently omit all precepts of questionable morality, but the slightest infusion of religious controversy would secure the failure of the design. It would be better to call the prejudices of the Hindoo to our aid in reforming them, and to control their vices by the ties of religion, which are stronger than those of law. By maintaining and purifying their present tenets, at the same time that we enlighten their understandings, we shall bring them nearer to that standard of perfection at which all concur in desiring that they should arrive; while any attack on their faith, if successful, might be expected in theory, as is found in practice, to shake their reverence for all religion, and to set them free from those useful restraints which even a superstitious doctrine imposes on the passions."

Mr. Elphinstone then proceeds to give an outline of the Mahratta system of civil justice which was administered by the Peishwa or his minister, and under him by the Sirsoobadar or Camavisdar, the Mamlutdar, and last in order, the Potali. Our readers will find an abridgment of this part of the report in a preceding number,* accompanied by a comparison of the advantages

pages

tages of the native plan with those of the Adawlut. Mr. Elphinstone prefers the former, which he proposes to preserve, taking measures to remove its abuses and revive its energy. He adds: "such a course will be more welcome to the natives than any entire change; and if it should fail entirely, it is never too late to introduce the Adawlut."

Mr. Elphinstone admits the impracticability of keeping up the native plan entirely unchanged. But the change should be gradual: "it seems desirable that such improvement should be so slow as to allow the amelioration of the society to keep pace with that of the laws, and thus escape the evil of having a code unsuitable to the circumstances of the people, and beyond the reach of their understanding." The system he proposes for the British civil government in the Deccan is as follows:

Our principal instrument, Mr. Elphinstone says, must continue to be the punchayet, exempt from all new forms, interference, and regulation on our part, which would throw over this institution a mystery available for dishonest purposes by litigious people, who employ courts of justice as engines of intimidation, and which renders necessary a class of lawyers who are the great fomenters of disputes. Forms, moreover, deter respectable natives from serving on punchayets. The indolence of the natives, their aversion to form and restraint, their hatred of novelties, and their dread of getting into difficulties in an unknown course of proceeding, and thus exposing themselves to our supposed strictness, would be sufficient to prevent any honest Potail from calling a punchayet, or any disinterested inhabitant from serving as a member: but it is only the honest who would be thus deterred; those who looked to profit through fraud would run a little risk in pursuit of their selfish designs, and would study our new laws so as to qualify themselves to evade them.

Appeals from village punchayets should be made to the Collector, who if he thinks the punchayet has not been freely chosen, or that it was not fully decided, or if on a summary inquiry he discovers any gross error or injustice, or sees good ground to suspect corruption, may order a new punchayet either at the original village or elsewhere. In this inquiry the collector can, of course, direct the Mamlutdar to make any local investigation that may be necessary, and he can employ his assistant or Aumeen either in conducting the summary inquiry or in superintending the second punchayet; but he ought on no account, to go into an inquiry in any ordinary case merely because the punchayet appears to him to have decided erroneously, the object of this appeal being rather to watch over the purity of the courts than to amend their decisions. The appeal ought to be to the Collector rather than to the Mamlutdar, to prevent that officer either quashing complaints or needlessly drawing up causes from the village tribunals to his own.

For the adjustment of disputes amongst mercantile and other persons who reside in towns, and are not subject to the authority of any potail, Mr. Elphinstone proposes another plan. When they belong to trades, the Shaitee, or head of the trade, may perform the functions performed by the Potail in summoning a punchayet, with the consent of the parties; and when these means are insufficient, complaint may be made to the Mamlutdar, who, if he cannot accommodate the matter either by his own interposition or a punchayet agreed to by both parties, must report it to the Collector, who will authorize a punchayet of persons of the same order. When the parties leave the nomination of these punchayets to the Mamlutdar, or other officer of Government, he cannot be too careful to select the members so as to make attendance as little onerous as possible. Persons unemployed ought to be preferred to men in business,

business, and the whole to be managed as much on the principle of rotation as the disposition of the parties may admit. The objection of the parties to any member ought, however, to be always attended to; and if they shew a disinclination to the persons proposed by the Government agent, they ought to be allowed to name four respectable persons themselves, who ought to choose a fifth as an umpire. If the members cannot agree, the umpire must be named by the Government officer.

In very large towns, he suggests that native officers should be nominated expressly for the administration of justice: for example, he thinks that there should be three native judges at Poona, with salaries of 200 rupees each, and three of inferior rank, who should receive complaints referred to them by the Collector, and submit them to punchayets, or decide them themselves, when both parties consented to that mode of adjustment; in which case an appeal should lie to the Collector. In each of the large towns, perhaps two in each district besides Poona, there might be an Aumeen, with power only to grant punchayets when agreed to by both parties, and to settle such causes as the parties might agree in writing to refer to his decision; but whenever there was a dispute about the mode of trial, he ought to take the orders of the Collector.

On all doubtful questions of Hindoo law, reference might be made to the principal Shastrees. There should be an appeal from the native officers in all cases to the Collector, and the Commissioner should receive special appeals from the Collectors, "not with a view to revise their decisions in each case, but to give him an opportunity of ascertaining that his instructions are acted up to, and that the custom of the country is not departed from."

Mr. Elphinstone holds it indispensable that Collectors should make tours round their districts: that they should not confine themselves to receiving petitions in writing, but should give audience for at least two hours every day to all ranks, receive complaints *viva voce*, and grant decisions, and orders on Mamlutdars, as the cases require; and that Mamlutdars should answer speedily and fully every complaint or reference.

Causes in which great sirdars are parties should, he observes, be reported to the Commissioner, for special instructions in each case. Mr. Elphinstone lays down rules for limitation of suits, &c. regarding these persons; and he proposes that registers of the causes tried by Mamlutdars and Aumeens should be sent to the Collectors, and by them to the Commissioner; but nothing of this sort should be required from the Potali. He adds: "so far, indeed, am I from wishing to clog the proceedings of the lower orders with forms, that I think a decision ought to be received and enforced by the public authorities, by whomsoever it has been passed, in every case where there is a written consent to the arbitration on the behalf of the parties, and a written award on that of the arbitrators."

"Too much pains cannot be taken to encourage private arbitrations; and this is the more necessary from an opinion which appears to be industriously propagated, that our Government resents and punishes any interference of individuals in affairs which are without its jurisdiction."

"The employment of the professional Vakeels ought to be strictly forbidden, both in the Mamlutdar, Aumeens, and Collector's cutcherries: with the Potails they are not likely to exist."

"Similar pains must be taken to guard against professional arbitrators, a description of persons who were not unknown under the Mahratta Government, and who appear, from Mr. Lumsden's report, to be becoming common under ours. This class, to all the bad qualities of hired Vakeels, adds that
of

of corruption in the decision of the cause; perhaps some rule should be fixed to compel the Mamludars and Aumeens to attend to this caution: but this is the only regulation I would venture to propose regarding punchayets."

As a check upon frivolous and litigious complaints, Mr. Elphinstone thinks that the punchayets, or the person who tries the cause, should be allowed to fine a party whose complaint or defence is palpably frivolous; or if this be too great a latitude to entrust to a punchayet, the fine might be limited to a proportion of the costs of the proceeding, &c. In case of appeals, he would oblige the appellant to enter into a bond to pay a certain fine if the complaint proved vexatious.

He recommends that decrees should be enforced in the mildest forms in use with the Mahrattas; a Hircarra, or, in the case of a respectable man, a Carcoon, should be sent, to insist on the payment of the sum decreed, and to prevent the debtor eating from sunrise to sunset unless it were paid. The property of the debtor ought also to be sold, but not his house nor the implements of his profession: if all this should be insufficient, he should be imprisoned for a period to be fixed on the report of the punchayet, according to the amount of his debt, and the fraudulent or litigious spirit he had displayed.

Mr. Elphinstone's remarks on the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed plan are sound and judicious: "The plan I have proposed has many obvious and palpable defects, and many more will no doubt appear when its operations are fully observed. It has this advantage, that it leaves unimpaired the institutions, the opinions, and the feelings that have hitherto kept the community together; and that as its fault is meddling too little, it may be gradually remedied by interfering when urgently required. An opposite plan, if it fail, fails entirely; it has destroyed every thing that could supply its place, and when it sinks the whole frame of the society sinks with it. This plan has another advantage likewise, that if it does not provide complete instruments for the decision of suits, it keeps clear of the causes that produce litigation. It makes no great changes, either real or apparent, in the laws, and it leads to no revolution in the state of property. The established practice also, though it be worse than another proposed in its room, will be less grievous to the people, who have accommodated themselves to the present defects, and are scarcely aware of their existence: while every fault in a new system, and perhaps many things that are not faults, would be severely felt for want of this adaptation. I do not, however, mean to say that our interference with the native plan is odious at present. On the contrary, several of the Collectors are of opinion that a summary decision by an European judge is more agreeable to the natives than any other mode of trial: this may be the case at first, but if the decisions of Europeans should ever be so popular as to occasion the disuse of the native modes of settlement, there would soon be a run on the courts; and justice, however pure, when obtained, would never be got without years of delay.

"There must, however, in the system now proposed, be a considerable sacrifice of form, and even some sacrifice of essential justice; and it is to be expected that the abuses which will be observed under it will give particular disgust to most of our officers, because they are repugnant to our ways of thinking, and we are apt to forget that there are equal blemishes in every other system, and that those which are the least offensive in our eyes are often most disgusting to the natives. This unsuitableness of the native system to European ideas is, however, a very serious objection to its adoption, and renders it doubtful if we shall be able to maintain it after the officers to whom

whom it is to be intrusted shall have ceased to be selected merely for their fitness.

"If our own system be unintelligible to the natives, it is at least intelligible to us, and as its characteristic is strict rules, and checks to departure from them, it is not easy to go wrong. Moreover, as it possesses no very nice adaptation to the native way of thinking, a little derangement is of no great consequence. But the native plan can seldom be thoroughly understood by any of us: we may act against its plainest rules from mere ignorance, and we must all be liable to strike at its vital principles when we think we are only removing its defects. Nor is it necessary that the legislature should fall into this error to produce the most fatal effect. The error of an inferior executive officer is sufficient to overthrow the system. The Commissioner perceives the numerous irregularities, abuses, and corruptions in village punchayets, which may be avoided by a few simple rules, and the complete insight and effectual superintendence that would be gained by a mere report of the Potail's proceedings; he makes his regulations, directs a register to be drawn up, punishes the neglect of his orders regarding it, and from that moment there is an end of village punchayets, until Potails shall be found who will undertake those troublesome and unknown forms from mere public spirit, with the chance of punishment and censure for unintentional failure. Not less effectual would be the decision of an inexperienced assistant, acting with that confidence which experience alone confers: he fines some punchayets for exceeding their judicial with their fiscal functions, and the effect of his decision is as complete within his district, as if a law had been enacted prohibiting all interference in settling disputes, except by the officers of Government.

"To avert these dangers, the best plan is to keep this territory for a considerable time under a separate commissioner, on whose vigilance we must depend for correcting mistakes such as have been described."

The effects of our revenue, police, and judicial systems, he sums up in a few words: "We have in revenue lighter, more equal, and more certain assessment, less speculation, and consequently less profit to the agents of Government. In police, more attention and more vigour, but less violence, and so far less efficiency. In civil justice the great change is, that Government has taken on itself the whole responsibility of protecting people's rights; but there is more form, more purity, more delay in some cases and less in others. In criminal justice more system, more scruples, more trials, more acquittals, more certain punishment for all crimes except robbery, and for that both less certain and less severe."

Lastly, Mr. Elphinstone considers how the people stand affected to our government, and what chance there is of interruption to our tranquillity.

"We may, of course, as is usual in a change of government, rely on the enmity of the upper classes, and principally of those who enjoyed places of power and emolument under Bajee Rao; but these were in general men neither eminent for their birth nor their personal character, nor was their administration so popular as to give them influence over the people. The only thing that might make them of consequence would be their wealth, and that is a security to us against their endeavouring to disturb the public tranquillity.

"The great hereditary Sirdars are a much more important class: they are not, like the chiefs of a Mussulman government, foreigners to the people, nor are they raised by the prince, to fall when his support is withdrawn; they are of the same nation and religion with the people, and the descendants of those who have been their leaders since they rose to independence. Their landed
possessions

possessions also give both an extent and a permanence to their influence, not usual in the countries we have before subdued. This class suffers severely, both in wealth and consequence, and the members would doubtless join in any plan that gave a fair prospect of regaining their advantages; but the enjoyment of their personal jagheers prevents their being driven to despair, and what they have yet to lose is enough to prevent their embarking in an undertaking so hopeless as a struggle with the British power. I know none of this class that has such a character for enterprize or activity as to make him likely to stand forward. The great Jagheerdars who retain their lands are of course contented with the present state of things. The Putwurduns, except Christamore Rao, are perhaps better pleased with this government than the last; but the others would probably prefer a Mahratta government, if it could be restored without risk or exertion. Besides their national feeling, and their preference of rulers with whom they could have some communication, they probably have all a dread that sooner or later they will be brought under the Adawlut, if not dispossessed. This feeling, however, is not so strong in the Deccan as it seems to be in Hindostan. Appa Dessye is the most turbulent of this class; but though much irritated by the loss of Checkoree and Manowdee, he has still a great deal to lose, and is too much of a politician to throw it away by any rash enterprize. The Prittee Nedhee is a man of a very restless and adventurous turn, and his high rank apparently fits him for the head of an insurrection; but he failed in two rebellions against the Peishwa, and his understanding is now so much deranged, that it has been found necessary to leave the management of his affairs in the hands of his wife, a woman of ability, disposed both by her interest and her natural inclination to restrain the wild sallies of her husband.

"The holders of personal jagheers, and those who have enams and other rights free of service, gain by the absence of extortions under our government, as do the Ryots, with whom our principal popularity is no doubt to be found. But even among them there are many drawbacks on the gratitude we might expect for our light assessments and effectual protection. The Daismooks and other Zemindars, the Potails, and other village authorities, who lose power and emoluments by our care to prevent injustice and exactions, have probably influence sufficient to injure us materially, even with the very people in whose cause we incur their odium. The whole of the soldiery, and all connected with them, all who lived entirely by service, all who joined service and cultivation, all who had a brother in employment who is now thrown back on the family, and all who bred horses or were otherwise maintained by the existence of an army, detest and abhor our regular battalions, and are joined by their neighbours from sympathy and from natural feeling. The connexion between the soldiery and the cultivators, though it has this temporary bad effect; is on the whole advantageous, as it points out a provision for the former class, to which the encouragement given by us to agriculture affords additional facilities. The general disposition of the agricultural class also is strong in favour of tranquillity: they are the first sufferers in wars or assemblages of banditti; and as they were by no means favoured under the Brahmin government; they cannot, whatever pride they might take in Mahratta independence, seriously wish for its restoration.

"The bankers who profited by loans and advances to the farmers of the revenue, and the merchants who supplied the court and the upper classes, must for a time be discontented. They may, perhaps, gain more hereafter by other pursuits, but they must suffer while the channels of profit are shifting. This

is the class which one would expect to derive most benefit by the introduction of a regular government; but whether owing to the equal division of property, which sets aside all the more costly articles of commerce, or to the exemption from all taxes allowed by the Native Governments to merchants, it seems to be thought in the Deccan that the bankers and merchants in the native territories are richer than in ours.

A vast number of Writers, Vakeels, and other agents and dependents of the Government and of great men, are thrown out of employment by the fall of the late Government, and they are probably the most bustling, intriguing, and restless of our subjects; the most likely to injure the Government by plots or by false information, and the public by mischief-making and chicanery.

Besides all these there is a large class of public servants of former days, who were reduced to poverty by the hostility of Bajee Rao. These are often much respected by the people. They would be the best people to employ in all offices where recent familiarity with business is not required, as they possess the weight of men who have filled public stations, without the regrets of those who have lately been in possession.

The unemployed soldiery appear by the accounts of the collectors and political agents (in 1819) to exceed 33,000. A considerable proportion of these are from Hindoostan, and they are of the whole body the most difficult to dispose of. Having already been starved out of their own country they cannot go back thither, and being quite ignorant of agriculture, they can find no employment here. Besides these there are the whole of the Mahratta horse employed by the Peishwa and his Sirdars, many of the infantry of the Concan, and the Arabs and Sindies similarly employed, and likewise the Mahratta horsemen who have come in from Holkar's and Scindia's camps, and those that are still coming from Nagpoor.

"The whole of these," he observes, "with an abundant proportion of officers, are ready to join any standard that promises a few months' employment. I do not, however, think that a leader is likely to start up within our own immediate government and control. The Nizam's country is the most probable situation for such an assemblage, and any serious disturbance, of whatever nature, in that territory, would have a powerful effect on ours."

"A foreign war with a Mahratta prince (Scindia for example) would draw out many of these adventurers, and if at all successful would excite great interest with all. Both Scindia, Holkar, and the Bousla, and even the Guicowar, though in a much less degree, have many dependants throughout the country. Those of the Bousla are military men who have been in that service, or who have relations in it, but almost the whole of Scindia's and Holkar's courts and armies are natives of this country, and are still intimately connected with it.

"The intrigues and money of Bajee Rao might produce internal disturbances which would not of themselves arise, and the appearance of a bold pretender from his family, the son of Amrut Rao for example, would probably call together a small body of adventurers, more impelled by want than by zeal, to maintain his title.

"But the event which more than any other appears to threaten disturbance in this country would be a foreign war, that should require us to withdraw a large portion of our troops from the Deccan. A mere body of horse like Dhoondia's would soon be run down, unless it had some place of refuge to which our troops could not penetrate, or several places of refuge into which

it might disperse without the fear of being disturbed by small detachments. The former case was that of the Pindarries before 1817, and the latter may be illustrated by supposing the strong country in the range of the Ghauts and immediately to the west of it, that on the Nerbudda and on the lower course of the Godavery, that in the rear of Ganjam and Cuttack, and similar inaccessible districts throughout the Deccan, to be in a state of insurrection, while a horde of predatory horse was scouring the plains. If closely pursued by a large force it might scatter and fly to these retreats, which, as they could not all be attacked at once, would each in its turn afford protection to the bands which had been dislodged from the others. The materials exist in abundance both for a jungle war and for one of predatory horse. They are prevented from taking any shape by the greatness of our real power, and the greater force of our reputation; but our troops as they stand at present are by no means more than sufficient to ensure a continuance of this impression, and any circumstance which should require for two campaigns such a concentration of force as took place in 1817, would probably be sufficient to produce all the bad effects I have alluded to. Such an event is not likely to happen, and the chance of its occurrence will be prevented by a timely consciousness of the danger to which it would give rise.

"I have left out of the account the dangers to which we should be exposed by any attempt to interfere with the religious prejudices of the natives. These are so obvious, that we may hope they will never be braved. The numbers and physical force of the natives are evidently incalculably greater than ours. Our strength consists in the want of energy and the disunion of our enemies. There is but one talisman, that while it animated and united them all, would leave us without a single adherent: this talisman is the name of religion, a power so odious, that it is astonishing our enemies have not more frequently and systematically employed it against us. I do not point out the danger now from any apprehension that Government will ever attempt to convert the natives, but to impress upon it the consequences that would result from any suspicion that it was disposed to encourage such a project. While we enjoy the confidence of the natives our boldest innovations are safe, but that once lost, our most cautious measures would involve us in danger. It would not then be necessary that we should go so far even as we do now; the most indifferent action would suffice to excite that fanatical spirit, the springs of which are as obscure as its effects are tremendous.

"On the whole, I think that, with tolerable vigilance and promptitude, joined to the moderation which Government seems determined to shew, we may reckon ourselves safe, even for the present, from all disturbance. The disaffected will be kept under by our force until they become insignificant, and in a few years all will be quiet and well disposed."

TREATMENT OF THE CAPTIVES CONFINED AT AVA.

A NARRATIVE has appeared in one of the Calcutta papers * of the sufferings of Mr. J. Laird, a merchant at Rangoon, through the barbarous treatment of the Burmese, from his seizure at the commencement of hostilities till his release at the close of the war, when Sir A. Campbell had arrived at Yandaboo. This interesting narrative contains likewise details of the manner in which the prisoners at Ava—British, Americans, and others—were treated under the eye of the King; affording, as it is truly observed, a lively picture of the tender mercies of the Burman authorities.

At the latter end of January 1824, an order arrived at Rangoon, from the Prince of Sarrawaddy to the Viceroy of Pegu, directing him to send Mr. Laird up to Ava with all practicable despatch, as the King wished to see him. At this period an open rupture had not taken place between the two powers. Mr. Laird, sensible of the futility of resisting the mandate, made over his property to a friend (since dead), whom he constituted his agent; and on the 4th February left Rangoon with part of his family in a small boat, which was escorted by the war boat which brought the order from court. The head man of this boat intimated a threat of putting Mr. Laird in irons; which produced, what was doubtless intended, the payment of a considerable sum to escape this infliction. Mr. Laird, it seems, was known to possess property to some amount in the country, which was in the power of the Burmese officers; besides cash, piece-goods, stick-lac, and other articles, to the amount of 20,000 ticals, at Ava, he carried with him goods worth about 4,000 ticals.

On the 8th February they reached Tindoo, in the district of Sarrawaddy, where Mr. Laird staid a few days, making purchases of timber, and arranging for its conveyance to his agent at Rangoon. He reached Chouk-tha-long, a village about twenty miles below Promo, on the 13th. On arriving in the vicinity of the Petroleum wells, Mr. Laird observed parties of armed men marching on both sides of the river, and was told that they were going to join the Bundoolah's army at Simbagewn, destined for Arracan.

On the 4th of March he arrived at Ava. The King and the principal members of government were then at Amerapura; but some days afterwards they returned to Ava, and Mr. Laird was carried before the Prince of Sarrawaddy. On demanding on what charge, or for what reason, he had been brought up, the Prince replied that he wished to see Mr. Laird, to question him concerning the difference with the English at the Naff Island, or Shapuree. Mr. Laird stated that he knew nothing about the matter further than what he had seen in the newspapers, viz. that the Burmese had driven the British troops from that island, that some lives had been lost, and that in consequence the British Government had sent a force to retake the island.

The Prince replied, that the island in question belonged to Ava, and that it brought the Government a considerable revenue from turtles' eggs; that the British were in the habit of sending people from their frontier to carry away the turtles, and that the Governor of Cheduba (which name, it appears, is given to the whole Arracan district) no longer thinking it proper to permit their doing so, the English Governor had ordered a guard of soldiers to be placed on the island. He also stated that the Governor of Cheduba had petitioned the King, stating that the English had taken part of their country,

and

* The India Gazette.

and that he had remonstrated but could get no redress; that the King then gave orders to him to raise a force and drive the English off the island.

After a short pause the Prince of Sarrawaddy added: "if the English do not restore us Shapuree again, when our army reaches Arracan, under that famous general (Bundoolah) who has never been beaten, there will be war, and after he has retaken the island, *he has orders to proceed to take Bengal*. The English may be very strong by sea, but not by land; they do not understand fighting, but our troops do."

After some further conversation respecting the war, the Prince dismissed Mr. L., with these words:—"Go and carry on your business; sell your goods, and send back your sticklac to Rangoon; and if any one questions you about the war, say that you know nothing about it."

After this Mr. L., for nearly two months, was allowed to go about his affairs without molestation. In the way of business, he made frequent visits to a village called Placke, about six miles due south from Ava, where the stick-lac is brought from the Shaun country. When the war broke out, however, Mr. Laird's property was immediately seized by the Prince.

At this period there was an army expected at Ava, which, to the best of Mr. Laird's recollection, was sent in April to Assam, under a chief, who was generally known by the appellation of the "King's School-master." About this time, too, the Bundoolah had arrived on the Arracan frontier with his army, and had reported to the Government that it was his intention to *make a present* of Chittagong and Pangla to his Majesty on the 4th of May.

On the 24th May a war-boat reached Ava from Rangoon, with news of that place having been taken by the English, and Mr. Laird was ordered by the Prince of Sarrawaddy to remain in his house, and was not even permitted to go and see Mr. Gouger, a fellow-prisoner.

In the course of a very short time an army of about 30,000 men was collected and despatched to Rangoon, under charge of the Kee Woonghee. When he was about to embark, the King accompanied him to the water side, and directed him to make all haste, and get to Rangoon before the British troops should *run away*, as it was an excellent time to take their arms in the panic that must ensue, the possession of which arms would enable him to conquer Siam!

The Thimba Woonghee and a Woondock having been defeated and cut to pieces (it is said by their own people, in endeavouring who should first escape at the gate of the stockade), the Kee Woonghee and the Thiekie Woonghee petitioned the King to make matters up with the English. His Majesty was indignant at their having done so, and directed that their title of Woonghee should be taken from them, and gave orders to send them a loongee, or petticoat, to wear, as they were afraid to fight, and were no better than *old women*. Some time afterwards, however, they were restored to their titles, after making the Queen some presents.

On the 28th May Mr. Laird was summoned to the royal presence, and being conducted into the office of one of the ministers, he underwent an examination of five hours; after which he was imprisoned within the palace, and his feet were put into the stocks. A fee of a few ticals to the *gaoler*, however, released him from this last punishment, and he was permitted to remain unshackled with some natives confined in the same place, together with Mr. Gouger, Mr. Rodgers, a Greek, an Armenian, and two *Musulman* servants of Mr. Gouger. Next day Mr. Laird was brought before another minister, and interrogated respecting some newspapers he had brought with him to

Ava. The following day Dr. Price, an American missionary, from the Baptist Missionary Society at Philadelphia, was added to the number of prisoners. The reason assigned for the imprisonment of all these individuals was their having "read the newspapers without communicating their contents to the King." They were again put in the stocks, from which they were only released by a bribe to the gaoler, and Mr. Laird added another present to be permitted to have his food brought him by his family.

The prisoners having sent a memorial to the King, a sandorger, or secretary, came to the prison and demanded 300 ticals as the price of their liberty. They agreed to pay it, and some actually paid it, when a royal edict issued, and about three o'clock p.m. of the 8th June, they were marched to the Loota. By order of Maunzagee (the Queen's brother), they were conducted to the gates of the palace by peons of the Loota, when they were delivered over to the marked men, or executioners, and carried to the worst part of the state-prison. Three pairs of irons were put upon each, and a long bamboo was passed between their legs, which left them fast in one uneasy posture.

In this painful situation their numbers were increased by Dr. Price, who appears to have obtained a temporary enlargement, and Mr. Judson, another American Baptist missionary. These two gentlemen were dragged in, chained like the rest, and were thrust upon the bamboo.

The keepers of this new prison obliged Mr. Laird to pay down three ticals before he was permitted to touch the food his family had brought, although he had not dined when he quitted his former prison. Each of the unfortunate captives was also obliged to pay a prison fee of ten ticals: Mr. Laird had not the money, and the accommodating gaoler took a handkerchief in payment. An intimation was given to the prisoners that they might be released from the painful application of the bamboo by a present to the governor of the town, who might be induced to change their place of confinement to a sort of shed adjoining the prison. The sum expected for this indulgence, 3,000 ticals, was too much for their finances. After a time, seeing that the money could not be extorted, the gaolers permitted them to be released from the bamboo and to occupy the shed.

A few days after this a private of the Madras European regiment was brought up a prisoner. The Burmese stated him to be a general, and to prevent any communication between him and the other prisoners, the latter were remanded to their old cell. Next day he was taken out with a large ring round his body, two pairs of chains on his legs, attached to another chain two fathoms long, and in this condition he was led to the Youndoo, or place where Burmese prisoners are usually interrogated, where several questions were put to him respecting the number of the British forces at Rangoon, the names of the commanders, &c.

By this time the property of the detenus had been seized, and nothing was left for them to subsist upon. The Burmese, however, had the generosity to give back to some of the party small sums of from fifty to a hundred rupees. Mr. Laird received nothing.

One day about noon, a high priest belonging to the palace, accompanied by several of the government people, came to the place of confinement, when the prisoners were commanded by the gaoler each to shew his face. This being done, the priest examined their physiognomies attentively, and after remarking that the person he required was not amongst them, retired. The same day the Shoudrick-woon, or King's treasurer, came and demanded of the detenus, in presence of the governor, how much they had each given to be allowed

allowed to remain in the shed. When the amount was stated, the governor was compelled to refund the whole to the Shoudrick-woon, but no part of the sum was restored to those from whom it had been extorted. The same evening a Woondock and other officers of the Loota came to the prison and directed the gaoler to confine the prisoners in different rooms, and not allow them to converse with each other or with their families. The size of each cell was about nine feet long by four broad, and just of sufficient height to admit of the inmate standing erect in it. But even this wretched cabin was a residence too luxurious, and as the governor entertained a pique against the prisoners for having been obliged to refund the money he had extorted from them, he resorted to an effectual mode of punishing them. Each captive was, in turn, put into the great gaol amongst the worst Burmese criminals, from which horrible situation he was remanded to the comparatively tolerable confinement of his own cell, on contriving to raise thirty ticals, by way of bribe, for the insatiable governor.

For some months they continued in the same situation, often abused by the gaolers for not giving them money and handkerchiefs, which they seldom had it in their power to procure. As for Mr. Laird, he had hardly "where-withal to keep body and soul together." All he had to depend upon was the scanty pittance procured by his family from the *sale of cheroots and grevus in the bazar*; the amount raised by the sale of their moveables and clothes; and occasionally little sums elicited from the compassion of those who had known them before in happier circumstances, some of whom would give a rupee, some half a rupee, some two rupees, and so forth. He subsisted, for many months, on a teacupful of boiled rice, with a couple of chillies, as many small onions, and a little salt. Tea being cheap, some could generally be procured without sugar, and this was considered a great luxury. These hardships were, however, trifling compared with others: they were not allowed to move a foot without a keeper to watch them; the sword was in a manner constantly suspended over their necks; and every time the poor fellows saw their grim sentinels sharpening their sabres, they expected it was for their own execution. To such an extremity were they reduced by this constant and terrible state of suspense, that at length they became hardened by despair, and regardless of life. "We had," writes Mr. Laird, "made our peace with God, and in him alone did we place our trust, who, although he gave our enemies the sword, denied them the power of lifting it against us."

Mr. Laird, at this time, was spared the pain of knowing that, in addition to his other sufferings, his character had been aspersed; and that, while he was pining in a state of miserable and cruel imprisonment, he was misrepresented in the British camp as in active co-operation with the Burmese.

A contrivance was set on foot by the Queen's brother, the head of the war party, to get these unfortunate men executed. A lascar named Alee, who had been taken in a ship's boat, was released from his prison, and placed amongst the detenus as a spy. This wretch, to compass his diabolical ends, proposed to them a plot for setting fire to the palace; but they fortunately were on their guard, and communicated the proposal to the King, who directed an inquiry into the subject. The prisoners were accordingly conveyed to the Youndoo, interrogated, and remanded to the great prison: where, so far from their condition being ameliorated, they were treated with greater rigour, and their old enemy, the governor, ordered that they should be beaten with baniboods if they attempted to speak with each other. A bribe, however, removed them to their shed again.

The following circumstance will shew to what extent the wanton oppression of even the subordinate ministers of the Burmese Government may be carried : Dr. Price and the head gaoler had some disagreement ; the weather at this time was extremely cold, and the prisoners, indifferently clothed, and worse fed, could ill bear any privation of their scanty comforts. The gaoler had plundered the doctor of his blanket ; but shortly after, one of his (the gaoler's) children having been taken sick, he called for the doctor's assistance. The latter replied that he would go and assist the child provided his blanket were restored. The blanket, however, was not forthcoming, and the gaoler vowed vengeance. A few days after, he informed the governor that he had *dreamed* that the doctor *intended* to run away. The result was, that the great man came himself to the prison, and ordered the whole party to be double chained, and every night at eight o'clock to be put into the stocks, and to be kept so till next morning. The stocks were barely large enough to admit their feet ; with this, and five pairs of chains, the prisoners were in great distress and bodily pain : in this state they continued for eighteen days. Often did they intreat of the gaolers to be allowed a little relaxation from this excessively rigorous confinement ; but the latter went so far as to mock them in their misery. At last, on being able to pay something, an order came from the governor that they should be released from the stocks and two pair of chains. The governor and gaolers, in a word, were playing into each other's hands, so as to squeeze out of the unfortunate prisoners any little property they might have left.

In March 1825 it was reported at Ava that the British had been repulsed at Donabew. This, of course, elated the Burmese much, and they calculated upon being able to drive the British out of the country. Upon this news reaching the capital the prisoners were again marched from their sheds into the great gaol, where they hourly expected to be privately beheaded. During their close confinement under these circumstances, they were for several days at a time not allowed to move about, and had barely their own length to lie down on. They heard of Bundoolah's death, even though the King had issued orders that any one who dared to say the Bundoolah had been killed should be put to death.

Shortly afterwards Monchoosa (at one time Viceroy of Rangoon, and of royal blood), and also Mr. Lansago, late Shahbunder of that port, were committed to prison on a charge of having pocketed five lakhs of rupees from the British Government for Diamond Island, to establish a factory on ; and for not having applied to the King for the island ; whereby the English, having heard no more from them (Monchoosa and Mr. Lansago) on the subject, had sent an armed force to take the island, which circumstance was the cause of the war between the two nations.

When the news of the British army having reached Prome was known to the prisoners, it inspired them with inexpressible joy. They calculated that its further advance would be a signal for their death or release : either would have been esteemed a relief.

On the 3d May they were called out by the executioners, and expected this hour to be their last. Their chains were knocked off, and they were fastened with cords, in which state they were carried to the Youndoo, where the Laina-woon took charge of them. They were then coupled, like dogs, and in this condition, without shoes or hats, were driven, under a burning sun, towards Amerapura. This was a most miserable journey. So lacerated were their feet, that they were obliged to tear off their shirt-sleeves, &c. to wrap round

round them. Amongst their number was a poor Greek, sixty-five years of age, and unable to walk. The Laima-woon made one of his own people dismount from his horse to accommodate the poor prisoner. This indulgence was allowed while that officer remained with the party; but having occasion to leave them, the Greek was taken off the horse, and compelled to walk. At length he fell down exhausted; and the other prisoners, fatigued and exhausted themselves, being unable to assist him, the unfortunate man was dragged along by a rope fastened round his middle, while his head trailed on the ground. At three o'clock in the afternoon the party reached the old palace-wall at Amerapura, unable to march further. Here the Laima-woon's wife gave them something to eat, which, in their situation, was most acceptable. About five o'clock the poor Greek arrived on a hackery, all but dead; he did not recognize any of his companions in distress, and about sunset of the same day was relieved by death from all his earthly troubles.

The same evening two gaolers arrived from Omberlay, with chains for the strangers; but there not being a sufficient number of chains, some had only one pair put on, while others were chained two and two. Carts were then brought to convey them to their destination. In these they passed the night and the greatest part of the next day; about sunset they reached Omberlay. On the road conjecture was busy among them respecting their fate: the melancholy conclusion was, that the priest had recommended their being burnt. On their arrival at Omberlay, this idea was confirmed by there not being any thing in the shape of a prison, save a small house, large enough to hold four or five couples of pointer dogs. They sat for some time under a tamarind tree, and were then conducted to this kennel, where they had barely sufficient room literally to pack their bodies. The party at this time consisted of Messrs. Rodgers, Gouger, Judson, Price, Lansago, Laird, a Portuguese priest, and an Armenian, named Arrakel. At this vile hovel, fees were demanded to the extent of ten ticals for each prisoner; but as all but Lansago and the Portuguese were unable to comply with this demand, they were tortured in the following manner: their feet, placed in stocks, were hoisted up so that their necks and shoulders only touched the ground. After being kept in this painful situation for some time, upon promises to do their utmost to pay the ten ticals, they were let down. The cash not being forthcoming, they were in a day or two afterwards tied up again. This punishment Mr. Laird describes as intolerably painful. The feet were confined in blocks, severely pinching them, while the whole weight of the body rested on the neck and shoulders.

They were confined at Omberlay nine months and a half, when an order came from the Loota for Mr. Gouger, and Arrakel the Armenian, to be released and sent to the British camp. To the great mortification of Mr. Laird, he and his fellow-prisoners were not delivered up at the same time with Mr. Gouger, but kept in confinement as before. When Mr. Gouger went away, however, Mr. Laird begged of him, on his arrival at the British camp, to request General Campbell to interfere in his behalf; and a few days afterwards an order came from the Loota desiring his keeper to send him in. Accordingly, along with his family he was conveyed to Ava in a cart. On his arrival there he was conducted to the Loota, and asked if he wished to leave Ava. He replied that he was most anxious to do so. He was then confined in the palace till noon, when he and his family were delivered in charge to the governor of the King's boats. They left Ava in the evening of the 21st February, and reached the advanced guard of the British army about noon next day.

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THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM OF BRITISH INDIA.

THE following extract from a memorial addressed to the Court of Directors, by Lord William Bentinck, when Governor of Madras, will be probably read with interest. The document refers to the establishment of courts of civil judicature generally in the territory under Madras in 1806, some of which have been abolished, from economical motives, at the suggestion of Sir Thomas Munro;—a measure, the policy of which, it is understood, forms a subject of existing discussion between the Court of Directors and that officer.

“It should be remembered that, with regard to the fundamental laws of our Indian territories, no alteration has at any time been even attempted. In all essential particulars, they remain precisely as we found them. At the period of our arrival in India, the Hindoos, in civil matters, were judged by the Shaster, and the Mahomedans by the Koran; and in criminal cases, the Mahomedan code formed the sole standard of judgment, for both Hindoos and Musulmans. In this arrangement we have more than acquiesced; we have ensured its continuance by specific regulations. In the criminal department, indeed, some inferior alterations have been found necessary, particularly with respect to the palliations and punishment of murder; but these were absolutely indispensable, and are so few as not at all to affect the general correctness of this statement.

“But these alterations, and the arrangements with which they are connected, are perfectly independent of what is called the judicial system. That system neither applies, nor was meant to apply, to the laws themselves, but respects exclusively their administration and efficacy.

“It is well known that the year 1793 forms a memorable era in the annals of Bengal. It matured and carried into effect the regulations which have rendered the name of Lord Cornwallis no less dear to the natives than his victories and virtues have made it sacred and formidable. Those regulations affected chiefly the collection of the revenues and the administration of justice; two branches of public service which, though separated by clear and radical distinctions, have, under despotic governments, been invariably united, not to say identified. On our arrival in India, we found them thus identified, and we long allowed them to remain so, because it was not our object to interfere with the internal economy of the country. In process of time, however, the course of events carried us almost insensibly to assume a more active cognizance over the domestic polity of our oppressed and wretched subjects; but as the gradations by which we arrived at that point were to ourselves at least imperceptible, the idea of a radical change, the only possible corrective for the existing evils, was at no one period fairly suggested to our consideration. The principle, therefore, of combining the financial and judicial functions, was passively admitted into all our plans, and completely succeeded in thwarting their efficacy. In vain did the Company, through a series of years, exhaust its invention in attempts to modify the system, and to alleviate the miseries of the people: the original error was still retained; the people were still miserable, and new methods were yet to be tried.

“Of these, the system which was adopted in 1772 subsisted with some improvement till the period of Lord Cornwallis's administration. This system, however, though in many respects superior to those that preceded it, was yet liable to the same incurable objections. The Company assumed the Dewanny functions, that is, took upon itself, by the immediate agency of its servants, the care and collection of the revenues. The Governor in Council was at

once invested with legislative, judicial, and executive powers; and the same triple character seems to have flowed down through all the inferior agents. The collector of the revenue of a province was also the magistrate of that province, and the superintendent of the provincial criminal court for the trial of revenue causes. The amount of the taxes was not fixed. An annual assessment was formed, founded on actual investigations into the extent of cultivation, and the value of the crops;—investigations very imperfectly made, and therefore generally leading to results extremely unequal and unjust. The oppressions, vexations, and cruelties, which must have attended this inquisitorial process, may be conceived. Nor were the revenues more easily realized than justly assessed: there was always a large balance, and the actual collections were not made without violence, and in frequent instances not without torture.

“Under these horrors, the landholder or inferior tenant had no resource; and even the attempt to obtain redress was harassing in the extreme. The proper revenue court always accompanying the person of the collector, not only could not be stationary, but had not even any fixed law of movement. Supposing, however, the plaintiff so fortunate as to reach it, he found that his oppressor, or the patron of his oppressor, was his judge. If, in spite of the delay, and distance, and expense, he chose to appeal from this to a higher jurisdiction, he then encountered the superintendence of the Board of Revenue, who might well be supposed not completely disinterested. If, after all his perils, he retained sufficient perseverance and hardihood to address the supreme tribunal, there his final sentence was to be pronounced by the ultimate defendant in all this process, the Governor in Council. Such were the great and complicated impediments that attended the administration of civil justice.

“It is not necessary to follow the various shiftings and changes of the criminal courts during this period; suffice it to say, that they were in general in the hands of natives, subject to English control; and that the presidency of the Supreme Court of Appeal was vested in the Nabob, who delegated the exercise of his functions to a Mussulman representative. This officer, who was in fact supreme judge, filled the inferior courts with his creatures; and thus was this most important of all public departments made an engine of mischief, and rendered infamous, in every stage, for the grossest corruption, tyranny, and injustice.

“At length Lord Cornwallis arrived, and another order of things began. The celebrated regulations appeared in 1793, and by their influence the administration of justice through all its channels was purified. They severed the judicial from the financial department. The collector was no longer a judge, and his court was abolished. The Nabob resigned to the British the long-abused prerogative of presiding in the Supreme Court of Criminal Judicature. A new series of courts was established: courts legitimately organized, judiciously distributed through the country with a view to promptitude either of redress or punishment, and leading by simple degrees to the tribunals of ultimate appeal. Civil causes were referred in the first instance to the courts respectively stationed in the several districts; in the second, to the provincial courts of appeal; and lastly, to the Supreme Court established in Calcutta. In criminal affairs, an appeal was open from the jurisdiction of the magistrate in each district to the courts of circuit, and thence to the Supreme Criminal Court, also established in Calcutta. The two Supreme Courts, indeed, were, of course, composed of the Governor General and the members of council.

council. The judges in the inferior courts were covenanted servants of the Company exclusively devoted to this duty, and placed above the reach of temptation to abuse their trust. The amount of the revenues was at the same time ascertained according to an irrevocable assessment, and the inhuman practices before resorted to for their collection were banished for ever. In order to secure these great objects of humanity and wisdom, the cognizance of the courts of justice was extended to the conduct of the revenue officers, even in their official capacity, and Government was no longer allowed to arrogate a vigour beyond the law.

"This system has realized the warmest hopes of its authors. Its blessings have been successively diffused over a larger sphere of action by Lord Teignmouth and Lord Wellesley, and the latter of these distinguished personages has recorded his opinion of its nature and effects in the following eulogy:—

"Subject to the common imperfection of every human institution, this system of laws is approved by practical experience (the surest test of human legislation), and contains an active principle of continual revision, which affords the best security for progressive amendment. It is not the effusion of vain theory, issuing from speculative principles, and directed to visionary objects of impracticable perfection, but the solid work of plain, deliberate, practical benevolence, the legitimate offspring of genuine wisdom and pure virtue. The excellence of the general spirit of these laws is attested by the noblest proof of just, wise, and honest government; by the restoration of happiness, tranquillity, and security, to an oppressed and suffering people; and by the revival of agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and general opulence, in a declining and impoverished country.

"The advantages of this system were, however, previously to the year 1802, confined to one presidency; and the exposition which has been given of the former state of Bengal was still applicable to the territories immediately subject to the Presidency of Fort St. George. Here the same causes produced the same evils: the same confusion of functions—the same oppression—the same uncertainty—the same wretchedness. A sufficient judgment of the general condition of the country may be formed from the instance of Tanjore, which in the year 1804 offered a striking picture of the universal peculations and oppressions carried on by the servants of the collectors. The Court of Directors were so impressed with the enormity of these evils, that they instantly ordered the establishment of the courts of justice in that province.

"Under the government of my immediate predecessor, the courts had, in the peninsula, been introduced into a few provinces which had been permanently settled; that is, in which the revenues were fixed by any unchangeable assessment. Into the rest of the country which was not yet settled, it was not intended to introduce the judicial system till the permanent settlement should have taken place. This delay appeared to me unnecessary, and I had the merit (if it be any merit to follow a good example) of obtaining the consent of the Supreme Government to the immediate and general introduction of the system in question. It fell to my lot, accordingly, to be the instrument of extending the influence of those regulations, the principal features of which I have already traced, and their effects in the Madras territories, as far as they have been tried, might be described exactly in the language which Lord Wellesley has applied to their operation in Bengal.

"But the people, it is said, are better pleased with their own arrangements and institutions, than with our regulations.

"To what arrangements and institutions of that people this assertion alludes, it may be curious to inquire. Is it to the arrangements established by the Mahomedan

Mahomedan Government prior to 1802? It is scarcely possible to conceive that the former can be intended; for no man ever dreamed for a moment of instituting a comparison between the most depraved exertion of our authority and the proverbial rapacity and corruption of Mahomedan administration. If, on the other hand, the successive institutions of the English be alluded to; in the first place, it is not easy to guess by what figure of speech the people of India can be complimented with any more property in them than in the late regulations; and in the next, it will not be denied that the late regulations are better calculated than any of their predecessors of British introduction to attain all the legitimate ends of government. How, under these circumstances, the Indians can feel the preference which is attributed to them, I am at a loss to divine.

"The most plausible objection, however, which has been brought forward against these regulations is, that, 'in India, where nothing is alike, it seems visionary to order every thing to be the same.'

"These words must of course refer to the native population of India; and if the regulations had in the slightest degree touched the manners, the habits, castes, religious prejudices, or even the dress and ornaments of the natives, if they had attempted to establish uniformity of any kind among our various subjects, the objection would have been just; but if any thing be incontrovertible, it is, that they have left these points totally unmolested. With the domestic or internal relations of the people they have no direct connection.

"They affect chiefly what may be termed the international policies of Britain and India. They are calculated to control rather the governors than the subjects, and strike upon the latter principally through the improved conduct and corrected principles of the former. They create neither new rights nor new duties; but enforce the practice of acknowledged duties, and provide against the abuse of existing rights. They inculcate on the superiors the uniform practice of justice; and from the inferiors they require, what it seems no tyranny to require, allegiance and a fixed and reasonable contribution to the public expenditure. These surely are rights and duties applicable to all places, all times, all customs, and all degrees of civilization.

"If, by certain hints that have been thrown out, it be meant to imply that this pacific process is insufficient for the purpose of realizing the public revenue, let it be proved that a defalcation of the revenue has, in point of fact, been the consequence of its adoption. But even if this were the case, and if it were found impossible to collect the taxes without an armed force, that resource, let it be remembered, is not finally cut off by a previous resort to the unarmed authority of the law; and I am not aware that any advantage is lost by making the appeal to the bayonet in the last instance rather than in the first.

"Whatever, therefore, may be thought of 'ordering all things to be the same' among the natives, it may be hoped that the project of enforcing on the Company's servants an uniformity of just, mild, and conciliatory conduct, will not appear altogether 'visionary.' We acquire no right to rule oppressively, by ruling those whom we choose to style uncivilized; nor does it follow, that, because the subjects are barbarians, the Government should be barbarous. There is, indeed, no engine of civilization more powerful than the equitable administration of wise laws; to defer the employment of it, then, till the people are happy and civilized enough for its reception, is something like adjourning the application of a remedy till the disease shall have cured itself."

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

SYSTEM AND ADMINISTRATION OF GOVERNMENT.

The first and second reports of the Commissioners of Inquiry at the Cape of Good Hope* have been printed by order of the House of Commons. Their contents furnish some valuable details respecting the past, the present, and the future government of that settlement. We propose in the present article to review the first report, which relates to the administration of the government.

The report commences with an outline of the form of government antecedently to 1814, when the settlement was ceded to this country. The powers of the civil government were originally exercised by a governor in council appointed by the Dutch East-India Company, and responsible to the Directors in Holland. In the administration of justice and general police they were responsible to the Government of the United Provinces. The same forms of administration prevailed during the period between 1795 and 1803, when the British held the Cape, except that the British Governor exercised alone the powers of the Governor and Council under the Dutch regime. It was given up at the peace of Amiens to the Batavian republic; and the government was at first assumed by a Commissioner, who had the power of promulgating laws and regulations, which were to have been embodied into a charter or constitution by the mother country. This had not been done when the colony was captured in 1806; but the Governor, General Janssens, and the Council, consisting of nine members, then acted upon the regulations framed and published by the Commissioner during his residence at the Cape. These regulations, which comprehended the executive, legislative, and administrative functions, and which were found in force by the British commanders in 1806, have since remained in full virtue, subject to occasional modification or repeal by the local or supreme authority.

The essential, if not the only, difference between the Dutch and British schemes of government, consisted in the concentration in the person of the British Governor of all the powers which had been separated or modified in the regulations. By virtue of his Majesty's commission and instructions, the British Governors have issued proclamations, in their own names, altering old and enacting new laws, levying taxes and imposts, regulating tenures of lands, confirming and conceding grants, fixing and reducing the amount of the perpetual quit-rent, and adding to the paper currency; they have been invested with an appellate jurisdiction over civil causes wherein the matter in dispute amounted to 1,000 rix-dollars, and over all criminal cases admitting of appeal by the laws of the colony; they have addressed orders to the court of justice, and have received complaints against and required explanations from the members of the judicial body; they have been invested with the power of remitting punishment for all offences, except treason and wilful murder, and fines not exceeding £10. The power of removing from the colony without trial all persons considered to be dangerous to its tranquillity, which was possessed and exercised by the Dutch and Batavian Governors, has also been exercised by those of Britain.

The political administration of the Colonial government, under the British,

* Vide the objects of their inquiry, in the instructions from Lord Bathurst, *Asiat. Journ.* vol. xxi, p. 776.

tish, has been generally conformable, the report states, to the more liberal views adopted in 1803 and 1804 by the rulers of the Batavian republic; and the important enactment sanctioned by his Majesty in 1812, for giving a permanent interest in the lands, which had previously been held upon the conditions of the loan tenure, gave stability to property and encouragement to plans of permanent improvement. At the same time, there has been no disposition shewn to decline the exercise of the extensive and obnoxious powers possessed by the Dutch Governors; and that which gave the appellate jurisdiction to the Governor tended to augment his influence over the courts, the effect of which, the report states, has not been beneficially felt.

The executive administration has been almost exclusively conducted in the office of the Colonial Secretary, and all public acts are attested by him or the Deputy Secretary. The Colonial Secretary's office has been the depository of records and correspondence, and the exclusive channel of communication with the Governor. From this, and other causes connected therewith, the Colonial Secretary has acquired an influence, especially with the Dutch inhabitants, equal, and sometimes superior, to that of the Governor himself. Yet the functions of his office are strictly executive.

The right of appointment to vacant offices has been exercised by the Governor alone, except in those of colonial and deputy secretary, colonial paymaster, auditor general, and the collector, comptroller and searcher of customs. The Governor's patronage has likewise extended to the offices in the country districts; and all, excepting the chief justice and his Majesty's fiscal, hold their appointments during the Governor's pleasure.

The boards of Landdrost and Heemraaden were established for the adjustment of disputes amongst the inhabitants of the country districts, in respect to boundaries of lands, right to water and water-courses, roads and bridges: the Landdrost acts as president, the Heemraaden act as assistant judges. The Landdrost executes the orders of the executive government, and is armed with very extensive powers of police. In these duties he is assisted by the field cornets, appointed by the Governor, on the recommendation of the Landdrost, from respectable inhabitants of the district. The Heemraaden vary in number, according to the extent and population of the district, not being less than four nor more than eight. Sub-drostdies have been established in some large districts, with Landdrosts and Heemraaden. Special Heemraaden have been appointed at Simon's Town, Port Elizabeth, and Port Frances. The Heemraaden are thus nominated: the two senior members of each board retire annually; the Landdrost and remaining members name four persons, of whom two are appointed by the Governor to fill the vacant places.

The Landdrost and Heemraaden meet each month to transact the civil and criminal business of the district, and weekly to exercise their judicial functions, when they hear and decide cases, or take preliminary informations. Extraordinary meetings are held for the receipt of taxes, or trial of civil causes. They have had latterly other duties connected with property in land. They are assisted in their administrative and judicial functions by district secretaries appointed by the Governor.

With respect to the promulgation of the laws in the colony, no regular form has been observed: they have been announced in the various shapes of notices, orders, advertisements, minutes, and lastly, of ordinances.

The report next proceeds to notice the effect and tendency of such modifications of the executive authority as have been introduced, and to suggest those

those alterations which, in the Commissioners' judgment, may be advantageously made.

They premise that a suggestion previously made by them, of separating the eastern and western portions of the colony, had received his Majesty's approbation. By this arrangement, the whole territory of the Cape of Good Hope will be separated into two provinces, one of which they propose should comprise the districts of the Cape, Stellenbosch, Swellendam, Worcester and Clanwilliam, to be denominated the "Western Province;" the other, consisting of the districts of Graaff Reinet, Beaufort, Somerset, Albany, Uitenhage, and George, to be named the "Eastern Province." The superficial extent of the provinces may be considered nearly equal. The population is estimated as follows: in the Western Province,—free 45,014, slaves 28,934, total 73,948; in the Eastern Province,—free 39,513, slaves 6,575, total 46,088. The produce of the former consists chiefly of wine and corn; whilst the latter principally affords pasturage for rearing cattle and sheep. Cape Town, notwithstanding its admitted disadvantages in some respects, will continue to be the seat of government for the Western Province. The capital of the Eastern Province is proposed to be fixed at Uitenhage, unless the result of a survey now making should occasion Graham's Town to be preferred.

The civil government of the two provinces is directed to be kept distinct and independent of each other, except on extraordinary occasions or emergencies. With this view, the commissioners recommend that the appointment of a variety of public officers in the two provinces should be reserved to his Majesty's Government, with a power of provisional appointment on the part of the Governor-in-chief. The commissioners strongly enforce this alteration as necessary to the welfare of the colony. They urge at the same time the great importance of giving due encouragement to the junior civil servants by their advancement to situations of trust and emolument. Hitherto, they say, the hopes of preferment cherished by these individuals have in many cases been defeated by the appointment of persons to lucrative and responsible situations who possessed no claims from previous service, or knowledge of business; and in several instances the duties have been performed by the junior servants, upon the depreciated salaries of clerks, whilst the principals have enjoyed almost gratuitously very considerable emoluments. The employment of native-born youths in official situations, where not inconsistent with the interests of the colony, they also recommend. The prevalence of local partialities and feelings amongst the colonial population is the reason for qualifying the recommendation; but the commissioners add: "we should wish our objection to be strictly limited to appointments of a judicial nature; and that in other respects, we have found abundant reason for approving the system of giving employment to the colonial youth of good character and education, as a measure of justice and sound policy, and more particularly to recommend that their claims to progressive advancement arising from the qualifications they possess, or from past exertions very inadequately rewarded, should never be allowed to be disturbed or thwarted by the abrupt introduction of competitors from England, who have neither qualifications nor antecedent service to plead in their favour."

Adverting to the council recently appointed to assist the Governor in the administration of the affairs of the colony, the Commissioners proceed to notice its effect and operation, adding suggestions for the improvement of its constitution. They think that a general disposition had been hitherto manifested by the Governor to appeal to the opinion and advice of the council upon occurrences of importance; yet but few subjects of a legislative nature, and

no topics connected with the finances and expenditure had been brought before it. They consider that the constitution of the present council is not calculated to afford any effectual control over the executive authority of the Governor; and they recommend that, whilst the Governor should retain the power of acting contrary to the opinions of the council, under responsibility, every member should be at liberty to propose any measure for deliberation and adoption that he thinks conducive to the public interest.

Although the administration of the two provinces of the colony is intended to be distinct, the Commissioners recommend that, to preserve an uniformity of principle in all the enactments of a general nature, the Governor or Lieutenant-Governor of each province should transmit reciprocally such enactments to the other, and in case of alteration being proposed, a reference should be made to the Privy Council.

They further propose that the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, in the exercise of the royal prerogative of remitting punishments, should consult with and be guided by the opinions of the council, and that no decision should be made without considering the judge's report; also that the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor should in all other respects not interfere with the orders and sentences of the courts of justice, which should have the exclusive power of punishing their own officers.

In adverting to the formidable power possessed by the Dutch and English governors, which has been termed the "political removal" from the colony of individuals whose conduct was considered dangerous to the public tranquillity, the report is thus expressed :

During the government of the Dutch East-India Company, it was principally exercised in the removal of the civil servants from one dependency to another; but there are also instances in which it was applied to the class called "free burghers," consisting of persons whose terms of service to the Company are expired, or who had obtained its permission to reside in the colony. There are instances upon record of both descriptions of persons having been compelled to leave the colony between the years 1738 and 1779; and we think that the authorities of the most respectable writers upon the law and constitution of the United Provinces are not wanting to prove, that both in principle and practice the power of political removal was an inherent part of their constitution. It was considered by them as forming a part of the authority of government that was independent of the control of the law, and as being vested in the governors for the sake of preserving the general interests of society in moments of peril, or when its tranquillity was threatened by the conduct of turbulent and seditious men. We find that these removals of individuals from one part of the United Provinces to another were not uncommon; and that they extended to the colonies. It seems indeed to have been the intention of the Batavian commissioner to recognize the practice, and to assign limits to it, in the regulations framed by him in the years 1803 and 1804; in the 84th article of which it is ordered, that "In no case whatever shall the attorney-general send any person by a political order out of the colony, or on board any ship in the roads, without the written fiat of the Governor for the time being." And in the 101st article, it is provided that in cases where he "entertains a well-founded suspicion that any inhabitant or stranger is dangerous to the public tranquillity or welfare of the colony, without, however, terms for an action appearing to him, he shall inform the Governor thereof, and summarily state the reasons of his suspicion, in order to enable the Governor to dispose with regard to such persons in such manner as he may deem most conformable to the general good." This authority was acted upon by Governor Janseps in the year 1803; and we find that, previous and subsequent to that period, it had been equally adopted by British Governors.

The more recent authority, by which the power of political removal has been considered to be sanctioned, is contained in the 29th article of the Governor's instructions;

tions; and the terms in which it is conferred are sufficiently comprehensive to include every species of offence or danger to which the public interest is liable to be exposed. The cases in which the authority has been exercised by the British Governors are not numerous, nor have they arisen out of circumstances that were wholly of a political nature, but from the apprehension or existence of practices either of novelty or danger, and against which the law had not provided, or could not reach with the rapidity necessary to prevent the dissemination of mischief.

The Commissioners then observe, that, although it may be expedient in time of war to give the power of political removal to the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, yet its exercise should be confined to aliens, or persons who are not natural-born subjects of his Majesty, and who have not resided in the colony under the permission of the Secretary of State for a longer period than five years, or who may not have held real property in the colony to the value of £500 sterling for a longer period than six months, with the same sanction.

They do not suggest that the power possessed by the Governor under the ancient system, of levying new taxes and increasing the rate of old ones, should be withdrawn, but they recommend that the sanction of his Majesty should be necessary to alter the appropriation of any tax levied for a particular purpose; and they propose to supersede, by a measure hereafter to be proposed (in relation to the finances), the power possessed by the landdrosts and heemraaden of the country districts of augmenting the ordinary taxes to meet charges of a contingent nature—a power very liable to abuse. In regard to the paper currency, the report observes:

The power of creating paper money, that was formerly exercised by the Dutch authorities, has been resorted to only on two occasions since the year 1812. By the sixth article of his instructions, the present Governor was prohibited from making any addition to the amount of paper money in circulation at their date (1813), and he was also instructed to withdraw from circulation a sum of 500,000 rix dollars, that was created and issued for the execution of public works, but of which 15,000 rix dollars only were redeemed; and we think that the prohibition in question should be repeated, with such positive denunciations of responsibility as may deter any future Governor from resorting to such an expedient, or continuing to avail himself of it. In consequence of the recent decision of the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, and the authority they have given for the redemption of the paper money at the rate of one shilling and sixpence sterling for every rix dollar, with a view to arrest the injurious fluctuations of the exchange, and the farther depreciation of the currency, it may be expedient, with a view to assist the operation of that measure in a mode that may in some respects be more acceptable to the inhabitants than by the transfer of their credit to England, to authorize the colonial Government to issue debentures to the extent of fifty thousand pounds sterling, in sums of not less than one hundred pounds, and bearing an interest of six per cent. per annum payable in the colony, or four per cent. in London, and redeemable in seven years. In no other instance should we venture to recommend that any power of pledging the colonial revenues, or other resources of the government, for the payment or security of any debt incurred by it, should be given.

The Commissioners recommend that no offensive hostilities should take place along the frontier of the colony without the concurrence of the Lieutenant-Governor and Council of the eastern province; and that war should not be declared against the independent tribes, whereby the resources of the colony at large might be called forth, without the concurrence of the Governor and Council of the western province.

In the future construction of the two councils, the Commissioners recommend that the chief justice of the colony and the chief military officer should

not, as at present, be members: the office of the former being inconsistent with the legislative functions of the council; and the latter being temporary and fluctuating. They also recommend that no person should be qualified to become a member who possessed any interest in slaves; and that priority of appointment should be the only rule of precedence.

Upon the prospect of establishing, at a future period, a legislative council, on the extended basis of popular representation, the report contains the following observations, which are important:

Limited as the constitution of the two councils will be, when compared with the power and duties attributed to them, we still think that they are calculated to give weight and consistency to the decisions of government, without affording any reasonable apprehension of lessening its legitimate influence, or of obstructing the course of its executive duties. It is an institution familiar to the recollection of many of the inhabitants, who from never having enjoyed the opportunity, or perhaps from never having felt a motive for taking an enlarged view of the advantages derived from institutions of a more liberal kind, do not generally extend their wishes beyond it, although the abolition of the provincial jurisdictions which we recommend, and in which they have participated throughout the colony, since its earliest establishment, would probably lead them to do so. But even at this moment a different feeling pervades the younger portion of the community, who, born under the British government, are beginning to acquire a taste for the habits and language of Englishmen, and evince a disposition to adopt their modes of thinking. The prevalence of this feeling, originating with the few whose circumstances have enabled them to obtain the advantages of European education, is mainly attributable to the wise measures that have been adopted under your Lordship's auspices for the establishment of schools, and the general introduction and diffusion of the English language, and cannot fail to be greatly increased by the early adoption of it in the courts of justice, and the gradual acquaintance that will also follow with the practice and principles of British jurisprudence. To this portion, who (without offence be it said to their parents, who have not enjoyed similar advantages,) may be justly considered the most valuable of the community, and who feel an honest pride in the advancement of their native country, and a laudable desire to participate in it, we may fairly and truly ascribe a wish to enjoy the benefits of a legislative assembly. It is to be observed that all or most of these individuals are possessed of some interest in the soil, and while their views in life and their occupations depend much upon its produce, they feel a permanent attachment to the colony which ought not to be overlooked, either in forming an estimate of their character, or in tracing the constitution under which they are to live. We think also that the prospect of participating in the future prosperity of their native country, and of providing a legitimate and constitutional remedy for the errors or the misfortunes with which it has had to struggle, will tend greatly to induce a cheerful co-operation in the exertions and sacrifices which the circumstances of the colony may still require from its inhabitants, and to alleviate the spirit of discontent which late events have tended to excite, and which has, in some measure, we fear, impaired that feeling of respectful attachment to the British Government which a sense of former benefits had produced. To the English part of the population who have adopted the colony as their home, or to those who may repair to it hereafter, an institution so congenial to their feelings cannot fail to be acceptable. There are not many of them at present, who, in point of permanent property, would be entitled to a seat in a legislative assembly, and still fewer who are competent, either from previous habit or education, to discharge the duties that belong to that station; but if a sense of personal security, or the hope of a more perfect enjoyment of civil rights, be connected in their minds (which it assuredly is) with the freedom of discussion in a legislative assembly virtually appointed by themselves, we cannot doubt that such an institution, imperfect as it might be, would make them more satisfied with their condition, and less clamorous for a change.

With this impression of the feelings of the community, we venture to express a hope, that, when sufficient time has elapsed to admit of the more perfect acquirement of the English language by the native inhabitants of the colony, and to enable them to share in the business of public discussion upon equal terms with their English fellow subjects, and more especially when the effects of the measures now in progress for the amelioration of the slave population shall have placed the future condition of that class, or, more properly, that of their children, beyond the reach of legislative caprice or control, and shall have rendered the re-action of such measures more dangerous than the precipitation of them, the institution of a legislative assembly in each province of the colony may be resorted to, and with every reasonable prospect of contributing to the tranquillity and happiness of both.

The report next adverts to the office of landdrost and that of heemraad; but as their functions and the changes therein relate principally to the judicial department, which will be treated of hereafter, this branch of the subject we shall for the present pass over.

In the course of their remarks upon this topic, the Commissioners introduce the following statements, which are valuable as statistical data. The number of districts into which the western province is now divided is four, comprising one sub-drostdy. The Cape district, chiefly producing corn, contains 8,969 souls, whereof 3,699 are slaves: the population is more condensed than in other parts, and there are several well-established farms in this quarter. The district of Stellenbosch is of large extent, containing 16,446 souls, whereof 8,699 are slaves. The greatest quantity of wine, and of the best quality, except the Constantia, is produced in this district, and the population is somewhat less dispersed than in other districts. Swellendam district, including the late sub-drostdy of Caledon, contains 13,746 souls, of whom 3,041 are slaves. The district of Worcester, which includes the sub-drostdy of Clanwilliam and the sub-magistracy of Tulbagh, contains 11,623 souls, of whom 4,711 are slaves.

The districts composing the eastern province are the following:—Graaff Reinet, including the sub-drostdies of Beaufort and part of Cradock, is very considerable; its population consists of 27,647 souls, of whom 3,124 only are slaves. It is in the mountainous ridges of this extensive district that the sheep and cattle are reared with which the market of Cape Town and the demands of the corn and wine farmers for draught cattle are chiefly supplied. The applications of the graziers for occupancies have followed the course of the Sea-Cow River, to the place where it falls into the Orange or Groote River; and a late survey of the boundary has been drawn, with a view to include a new and very large tract of country that extends from the Winterberg to the northward of the Sack River, on the western frontier. The district of Somerset, lately formed out of part of Graaff Reinet, the sub-drostdy of Cradock, and part of Albany, is neither populous nor extensive; it is contiguous to those parts of Caffraria where the tribes are most hostile. The district of Albany has a population of 2,767 persons, including 400 slaves. In that of Uitenhage there are 8,399 persons, of whom 1,132 are slaves. The remaining district of George contains a population of 6,737 persons, of whom 1,919 are slaves.

The Commissioners propose that there should be appointed for the western province, four judges of county courts, and four resident magistrates, viz. at Simon's Town, Caledon, Worcester, and Nieuweld; and for the eastern province five judges of county courts and three resident magistrates, viz. at Port Frances, Port Elizabeth, and Winterveld. They propose that the persons who

who now act as landdrosts should remain attached to their respective districts in the capacity of "civil commissioner," to superintend the districts, their state and condition, roads, farms, public works, &c. The field cornets, who are proposed to be called constables, it is recommended should report to the Commissioners on these subjects, and to the resident magistrates on questions of police.

On the subject of the native tribes the following remarks occur in the report:

The pursuits of the people, to whom the occupation of tracts under the name of "request places," has been granted by the magistrate of the district, and which are yet unconfirmed and unsurveyed, consist altogether of grazing sheep and cattle during certain parts of the year, and keeping up an illicit trade in fire-arms and gunpowder with the Griquas and Bechuana tribes, who, under the guidance of elective chiefs, and assemblies of the most popular form and structure, are endeavouring to establish an ascendancy over their remoter brethren, and at the same time to maintain a war of extermination against the unfortunate Boschmen, who have no property to lose. To these ravages have been attributed the deplorable state of distress to which many of these tribes have been reduced, and which has led numbers to seek refuge and subsistence in the colony, where they have been apprenticed to those colonists who are not slave owners.

Missionaries have been permitted to proceed to a greater distance in this direction than in any other; and although no great advance appears yet to have been made in the civilization of the tribes, nor advantage to have been gained from the trifling intercourse which their presence in the country may have tended to encourage, yet it has produced a feeling of respect for the English name and character, and a desire for peaceful intercourse, that may hereafter supersede the necessity of military protection against them, or the continuance of that hostile array on our frontier that obliges almost every herdsman to bear arms. The police and superintendence of these remote tracts, distant not less than six days' journey from Graaff Reinet, is necessarily placed under the management of persons who from habit and occupation sympathize too nearly with the inhabitants, to be able to preserve an impartial line of conduct in disputes between the boors and the natives who enter into their service, or in framing their reports of occurrences to the landdrost; they likewise yield to, instead of opposing, the eagerness of the boors to engage in commandos against the Boschmen, and afford no restraint upon the ferocity with which, we regret to say, these expeditions (though less frequent than formerly) are still conducted.

The next subject on which the report touches is the Burgher Senate, which the Commissioners recommend should be dispensed with. This institution originated in the appointment of two persons by the Commissioner Van Goens in the year 1657, to deliberate in criminal matters and assist in the trial of freemen, as contradistinguished from those in the service of the Dutch East-India Company. The number of members and the extent of their functions were subsequently increased. The provisional institutions of the Batavian Commissioner in 1804 modified the powers of the senate, which were then defined as follows:—They are entrusted with the management of the town lands within certain limits; they regulate the construction of buildings and houses in Cape Town; they are charged with the care of water pipes, and can command the gratuitous services of the "free blacks," either for exercise of the fire-engines, or in case of fire; they regulate the quantity and price of meat and grain; they inspect weights and measures; they superintend the night-watch, and the arrival and removal of all strangers in and from Cape Town, apprehend beggars and vagrants, and are instructed to attend to the morals of the inhabitants, and to "represent to the Governor any acts of excess or licentiousness in individuals

viduals that may have an influence over others, and be injurious to themselves ;" they receive and disburse the taxes paid by the inhabitants of Cape Town, &c. &c. The Commissioners are of opinion that the duties attached to this institution cannot be effectually performed in its present state, and that they would be better executed if placed under the immediate instead of the indirect control of Government, and executed by persons chosen on account of their probity, competency, and independence of all local and peculiar influence. The report concludes as follows :

In recommending the abolition of the burgher senate, we are aware that the inhabitants will be partially deprived of the opportunities to which they have been accustomed to resort for the representation of their grievances to the colonial government. We should regret at a moment like the present, when, in consequence of the introduction of the late legislative regulations for the amelioration of the condition of the slaves, and the disappointment occasioned by the reduction of the value of the paper currency, the feelings of the inhabitants have been much excited, that any fresh cause for dissatisfaction should occur, from the denial of what they regard the exercise of a right in the interval which may take place before the more extensive privilege of popular representation be conceded to them. From the manner in which they have made use of the customary right of representation through the burgher senate, upon some late occasions, we certainly should not be disposed to think that the interests of the inhabitants will sustain much injury by the temporary suspension of their functions as organs of the public feeling ; and we have regretted to observe, that the admonitory term which was applied by the Dutch commissioners in 1793, to the representations that the burgher senate were admitted to make to the colonial government in times to come, has not been without occasion. At the same time we think it our duty to state to your Lordship, that there is nothing in the character or in the general conduct of the body of the people of this colony that implies a spirit of disaffection to the government, or that should warrant the adoption of harsh measures towards them. Their acquiescence in the justice or the policy of the system of government is much more likely to be gained by a mild and liberal attention to their representations, than by a cold or repulsive dismissal of them ; and as there exists no political cause for the attachment of the inhabitants of this colony to any other interest than that which has led to its incorporation with the dominions of the British crown, we think that it will not be a task of much difficulty to give strength and permanence to the connection, and to place it beyond the reach of any future attempts to disturb it.

MILITARY EDUCATION.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : It appears by letters from India that the truly important subject of giving a requisite and proper military education to cadets of infantry and cavalry, and to which your work gave due publicity, has been most highly approved of. In the various publications in that country, the Court of Directors are, as it were, solicited to carry into immediate effect, a plan which would complete the education of all descriptions of the Company's servants, to whom, thus, equal justice would be rendered. Few of the King's officers receive an appropriate professional education ; and during the course of active service, and on many other occasions, it has been justly remarked, that the effects of a more or less degree of early cultivation and instruction were always manifestly apparent. During a long residence in India, I observed that the officers were studious, and desirous of acquiring additional indispensable professional knowledge : even those who had been educated at an university found

found that much was wanting beyond what might have been thus acquired. We frequently see in the publications and correspondence of the East-India Company's servants a culture of mind, acquirements, and philosophical reflection, of a very creditable description; and this, in many instances, where a regular collegiate education had been wanting. It is, however, known from experience, that in advanced life, but a very imperfect progress is made by the most assiduous private study in the various branches of military science; which, to be properly acquired, must necessarily be so, by careful early training, and the instruction derived from regular teachers, or by a methodical course of education. Were a due systematic education given to the cadets of infantry and cavalry, the Company's military service would be the most scientific of any; and the result, in the maintenance and advancement of British interests in India, would be permanently manifest, to say nothing of the aids afforded to civilization, by minds so constituted. It is unnecessary here to repeat the course of military instruction stated in former papers; and its defects can be supplied by the Court and by many retired officers of experience and science, who, by the bye, would form a most serviceable and efficient Committee of Tactics, who would at all times gratuitously aid the Court of Directors in all cases of military deliberation. This valuable board of tactics and military improvements might occasionally assemble; and meliorations previously well discussed might be suggested, and they would not but advance practical military science. Our tactics have been derived more from the French than from the Prussian or German systems, as I have long since proved; and in France they originated in the labours of a board of tactics, consisting of old and experienced officers, under the old regime.

It is thought in India that our cadets are sent out at an age too early to have acquired properly the rudiments of even the most common education; and when a want of experience and knowledge of the world exposes them to dangers and trials, which they are often unable to resist in the absence of the steadiness and prudence of rather more advanced years, it is thought, therefore, that they ought to remain with their parents or relatives to the termination of their fifteenth year, by which time they will have acquired a sufficient knowledge of the classics, arithmetic, and French language. They may remain two years and a half at the Company's military college, studying all the prescribed branches of professional knowledge, formerly detailed. They may then remain at home during eight months, to form, with minds expanded by education and the experience of association, a just estimate of their native country, and of its admirable institutions. Thus they will arrive in India before the age of nineteen, well informed, and qualified to discharge efficiently the important duties of their station: there is not a second opinion on the eligibility of a plan so much wanted. It is intended, and it is hoped by all, that it may be soon carried into execution. As a matter of course, it includes the far-famed Hindoostanee, so often mentioned, but which would be here a branch, and not the whole of the tree. The army in India has, in arduous and trying situations, always vindicated the exalted character of their native country; and it might be equally wise and just to impart the benefits of scientific knowledge, devoid of which, physical and moral energy will remain but comparatively powerful where deep professional thought and the higher order of tactical combinations are indispensably requisite.

Your's,

JOHN MACDONALD.

Summerlands, May 1st, 1827.

INTERNAL WAR IN CHINA.

THE rebellion which has broken out amongst the Mahomedan subjects of China, on the north-western frontier of that immense empire, like all other matters relating to eastern politics, notwithstanding its importance, excites little interest or regard in this country. Our journal* was the medium of the first announcement of this fact, in a communication from a valuable correspondent at Canton. Since that letter was written, fuller particulars have been made known; and it is now ascertained, beyond doubt, from the official publication of the Chinese Government, that the troops of the empire have been defeated by the rebels. The following is an extract from the *Pekin Gazette*, translated by J. F. Davis, Esq., at Canton, and communicated through Sir George Staunton to the Royal Asiatic Society.

"Destruction of Chinese troops on the western frontier of Tartary, near Cashgar."

"Yung-kin† has presented a report, in which he enumerates the soldiers killed and wounded near Cashgar,‡ and states, that troops have been sent in search of the enemy, and stationed to guard the most important passes. On the late occasion, when a force was sent out to destroy the rebellious foreigner Chang-kö-urh, it was defeated, and Yung-kin now states the number of soldiers killed as under :

Manchow troops from E-le	5
Militia	1
Sië-pëh troops	25
The Green camp, horse and foot soldiers.....	95

126

The Green camp, wounded..... 5

"Let a particular list of the names be presented to the Military Board, in order that rewards may be conferred on the families of those killed. The military weapons and stores which were lost must be replaced according to their respective numbers, and the horses, according to the number of the cavalry (horsemen) killed. The military weapons, which were brought to action by the soldiers from their respective camps, must be restored to each of those camps: and let a particular account be presented to the Board of the lost baggage and stores which accompanied the Green camp § on camels, as well as the missing horses, nineteen in number. Let an investigation be made concerning the three missing officers (mentioning their names) who were either killed in the action or lost their way since, and let a particular report be presented to us on the subject. As for Chang-kö-urh, who has retired to Shoo-la, and entered into combination with many other disaffected persons, he and the rest must be seized, and put to death with all speed, to vindicate the nation's majesty.

"5th Year, 11th Moon, 29th Day."

"KHIN-TZE."

Mr. Davis adds to the foregoing:—"This has since become a much more serious affair, and caused considerable sensation at the Court of Peking. Six hundred

* See *Asiat. Journ.* vol. xxiii, p. 474.

† A Tartar, nephew to the Emperor.

‡ Kih-shë-kö-urh, very exactly laid down in the MS. map of Chinese Tartary, made by the missionaries, and contained in the Chinese library of the East-India Company, as well also as "Yarkand City," Yeh-urh-Keang-Ching, to the south-east of it. This MS. map corresponds in a surprising manner, both in respect to latitudes and longitudes and the names of places, with our own maps. *T'ien Shan*, "Mountains of Heaven," is the name given to the lofty range extending from Cashgar eastward to Hami. *Nau-Shan*, "Southern Mountains," is the name of that other lofty range which, running from the neighbourhood of Cashgar towards the south-east, is separated from the commencement of the Himalah range, by the valley, through which the Indus breaks its way to the eastward, after passing Lahdac.

§ Or rather, perhaps, *regiment*.

hundred thousand tales (£200,000 sterling) have been levied on the Hong merchants alone, and the Chinese at Canton do not scruple to speak of it as a dangerous revolt. The foregoing paper is doubtless a very mitigated account of the defeat of the Chinese forces.*

Sir George Staunton at the same time presented to the Society a copy of a Chinese map of the seat of war in Western Tartary, sent express from the Commander-in-chief at E-le * (long. 34° west of Peking, lat. 44° north), and received by the Governor of Canton on the 27th November last. A facsimile, accompanied by a translation, of this map is now before us: in the latter, the longitudes and latitudes of the places are laid down from the Chinese maps belonging to the East-India Company.

According to the representation given on the original map, the rebellion originated at Koten, placed in the map before us in long. $35\frac{1}{2}$ or 36 degrees west of Peking, and in lat. 37° north: D'Anville places it about three degrees more to the eastward; and Thompson nearly four degrees more to the westward. It occurred through the following frivolous circumstance:—The natives cut down a forest, which the Chinese soldiers declared spoiled their *fung-shuwy*, or good luck; an affray took place in consequence, and some officers were killed. The rebels afterwards advanced to Hō-shih-hā, or Cashgar; but it is observed that this is not the usual way of writing Cashgar, nor does the relative situation here given to it correspond with that place. Cashgar, as before stated, is called in the missionaries' map Kih-shē-kō-urh, and it is placed by the Chinese on the same parallel with Koten, and in long. 43° west of Peking, nearly where it stands in our maps. In the map before us it is placed between Koo-chay (which seems to be the Cha-tcheon of Arrowsmith) and Too-loo-fan, the positions of which places are given below. It appears that a part of the rebels marched in an easterly direction to Chang-keih, situated, according to the map, in long. $26\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ west of Peking, and in lat. $44\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ north, of which they took possession. The insurgents are said to amount to about 200,000.

The Chinese troops are described as concentrating on the frontiers, in the province of Kan-suh, preparatory to commencing operations in the spring of this year. The spot upon which they are collecting is just without the Keayuh gate in the great wall, in long. $17\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ west of Peking, and in lat. 39° north.

The map before us contains several places, with some of their positions, which are not to be found in the common maps; their names and situations it may be convenient to describe, as they will probably be the scene of future operations between the two armies. The longitudes are computed from the meridian of Peking, which is situated in $116^{\circ} 28'$ east of Greenwich.

Ying-keih-urh.....	no position given.
Yē-ur [†] keang	long. 40° lat. $38\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N.
Koo-chay	$33\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$... $41\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$
Too-loo-fan.....	$24\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$... 43°
Ha-mi.....	21° ... 43°
Tun-kwang-hēn	20° ... —
Gau-se-chow	19° ... $39\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$
Yuh-mun-hēn	$17^{\circ} 50'$... —
Suh-chow-foo (in Kan-suh)	17° ... $39\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$
Fow-kang	26° ... 44°
Suy-lae	28° ... 45°
Teih-kwa-chow	26° ... 44°
Ke-tae-hēn.....	24° ... 44°
Chin-se-foo	21° ... $43\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$

* E-le is the place of exile from Canton.

A rebellion so formidable as this is represented to be, the object of which being the expulsion of the reigning Manchoo Tartar family from the throne, is one of the most interesting events, with reference to China, which has occurred in modern times. The *Quarterly Review* for June, in an article professing to give an account of the Russian missions to Bokhara and Khiva (but which displays much less information than we are accustomed to expect from that work), in adverting to this insurrection in China, indulges in very sanguine views with regard to the result. "We have not the smallest doubt," says the writer, "that one-half of the number (200,000) of Usbecks or Toorkies would with ease sweep all before them, from Peking to Canton, and from Shen-see to the Yellow Sea." Although we do not concur in this opinion, we are prepared to expect a very serious concussion in the empire, disturbed as it is by other political causes in various parts. To say nothing of the insurrection in Formosa, or the inroads of the mountaineers of Kweichow, our correspondent at Canton states that there have been serious disturbances in Kan-suh province, the very quarter in which the troops are collecting to oppose the rebels, and whither the march of the latter is doubtless directed. Another cause, which has been silently operating for years, and daily acquiring new strength, is the dangerous political confederacy to which our correspondent refers, described by the late Dr. Milne, called the *San-hü-hwuy*, or Triad Society.* "The object of this society," says Dr. Milne, "at first does not appear to have been peculiarly hurtful; but as its numbers increased, the object degenerated from mere mutual assistance, to theft, robbery, the overthrow of regular government, and an aim at political power."

It is plain that such a secret association, the mischievous designs of which are stimulated by the persecution of the government towards its members, who are put to death when discovered, must prepare the country for revolution. Our correspondent tells us that this banditti or brotherhood daily increase.

There are many other secret associations, formed either for carrying systems of fraud, or for political objects, "to assist and defend each other against the oppression of bad rulers:" such as the *T'ien-te-hwuy*, and the *T'ien-le-hwuy*, &c.

The materials of which the Chinese armies are composed can inspire the Government with little confidence. All those persons who have had any opportunity to study, even superficially, the character of the people, concur in declaring that a more pusillanimous race does not exist than the Chinese. The numbers that can be brought against an invading army in China constitute its only possible defence; and this is not to be despised. A sovereign who could scarcely miss a million of his subjects, sacrificed to defend his throne, or rather who would be glad to spare that number from his over-peopled territories, may be expected to feel some security in this consideration alone. Yet China has been once conquered by the Tartars, and may be a second time.

In the present circumstances of China, therefore, we should not be surprised to hear of serious results from this new rebellion, even if the number of the rebels be not so considerable as all accounts represent them. They appear to be advancing in the direct route of Peking, and should the army collected at the Kea-yuh gate of the great wall be worsted, the capital will probably fall.

* See "Some account of a Secret Association in China, entitled the Triad Society," in *Trans. of Royal Asiatic Soc.* vol. i. part ii. p. 240.

JUDICIAL OATHS AMONGST THE NATIVES OF INDIA.

As the question concerning the form of oath most binding upon the conscience of a native of India has lately become a very interesting subject of discussion* (especially since the natives are admitted by act of Parliament to a share of the judicial branch of government, by becoming jurymen), the following original document with which we are favoured, containing the questions upon this very point which were addressed from Ceylon, previous to the introduction of juries there, to the pundits of Benares, with their answers, cannot fail to be acceptable.

Translation.

Whereas the inhabitants of Singhal Dweep (Ceylon) regard the pundits of the Pât Saleh, or Hindoo College of Benares, as the fountain and source of knowledge in regard to their religion, and ascribe to them superior excellence : for this reason, the judges of the Supreme Court of Ceylon are desirous of obtaining from the Hindoo College of Benares a written document purporting what manner of oath is most pure and binding upon the inhabitants of Ceylon. To this end the judges above-mentioned put the following questions. The pundits of the Hindoo College at Benares are required to deliver their answers to the said questions religiously and conscientiously, agreeably to the shaster of their religion and faith, inserting the name of the shaster, its purport and language, and the name of the author.

Question 1st. The greater part of the inhabitants of Singhal Dweep, or Ceylon, worship the divinities of Bishen (Vishnu), Shewah (Siva), and Pulleear (the latter known in this country by the name of Gunnaish) ; is the purest form of oath that can be administered to each of the worshippers, the Gunga water, the copper pot, and toolsee flower ?

Answer. Each inhabitant of Singhal Dweep worships the divinity peculiar to his faith or caste, as transmitted from his ancestors. Thus the divinities of Bishen, Shewah, Dabee Gunnaish, also the Sun or Soorey (Surya), and other Deotahs, are recorded amongst the divinities at Ceylon in the sacred books called *Puddum Pooran* and *As-gundh Pooran* ; whatever be the caste of a Hindoo, whether he reside in Singhal Dweep or in any other dweep or country, he is bound by the oath of Gunga-jul (or water of the Ganges), copper pot, and toolsee. The said oath is binding every where, and upon all castes of Hindoos. This sentence is found in the book or potee called *Burmahwert (Brahma Vaiveritta) Pooran*. However, the caste called Jeynee, or Nasteek, although they are a tribe of Hindoos, yet they put no faith upon any of the Beids (Vedas) or sacred books ; thus the oath above-mentioned is not binding upon them. Whatever idol they may pay their devotions to, if their oath be required, they must put their hand upon the said idol, and swear by it.

Question 2d. Is an oath administered to any of these castes by the copper pot, the toolsee flower, and water, though not the water of the Ganges, binding or not ?

Answer. The Hindoo inhabitants of Singhal Dweep cannot swear by any other water than the water of the Ganges ; but in cases where the water of the Ganges is not procurable, the oath of the toolsee is binding. This sentence is found in the above-mentioned book named *Burmahwert Pooran*.

Question 3d. If the picture or image of any of the deotahs or divinities mentioned in the first question be put before the person of whatsoever caste he may be, or he put his hand upon the image, and thus swear by it, is such oath binding, and is it more binding and solemn than any other description of oath ?

Answer.

* See this Journal, vol. xxiii. p. 475.

Answer. The image of any deotah placed before the person swearing, is not binding ; any person who is qualified to put his hand upon the image and swears by it, or if he himself be not qualified to put his hand upon the image, but gets a brahmin to put his hand upon the image, and swear for him, such oath is binding. But such oaths are not considered more binding or more solemn than the other. This sentence is found in the book called *Mutachera* (*Metakshara*) and *Mutrooda*.

Question 4th. If the pooran called *Scaunder Pooran* be put into the hand of any person at the time of swearing, and he swear thereby, is such oath more binding than the oath of copper pot, toolsee, and the Gunga-jul, or than the oath above-mentioned, by the image of the deotah which the person swearing may worship ?

Answer. The Hindoo inhabitants of Singhal Dweep may swear by taking the *Asgundh Pooran* in his hand and swearing thereby. All oaths are equally binding. This sentence is found in the books called *Kalku Pooran* and *Mutachera*.

Question 5th. Do the pundits of the Pât Saleh at Benares know the book called *Scaunder Pooran* or not ?

Answer. The pundits of the Pât Saleh at Benares know the book called *Asgundh Pooran* well.

Question 6th. Amongst the castes above-mentioned in the first question, of the island of Ceylon, is the *Scaunder Pooran* considered of more importance and more sacred than the other poorans or shasters ?

Answer. Whosoever worships the divinity called Bishen (Vishnu) to him the poorans called *Shree Bhuguwurt* and *Bishen Pooran* are of most importance and most sacred. To the worshippers of Sheo (Siva) the poorans called *Siva Pooran* and *Asgundh Pooran* are most sacred. Thus whatsoever divinity any person worships, the pooran particularly treating of such divinity, and speaking his excellencies, is the most sacred. This sentence is found in the book called *Shoma R'hus*.

Question 7th. In order to make the oath of the toolsee, copper pot, and water, which may not be water of the Ganges, binding, is it necessary that the witness or the person swearing should swallow the toolsee and the water which is put into his hand at the time of swearing ?

Answer. If the person who may be sworn by the Ganges water and the toolsee leaf should, after making his deposition, drink the said water and eat the said leaf, it may be done, but it is not necessary to render the oath more solemn or more binding. This sentence is found in the book called *Burmahwert Pooran*.

Question 8th. What description of oath is most binding upon the castes of Hindoos of Ceylon ?

Answer. Whatever be the caste of a Hindoo inhabiting Ceylon, and whatever divinity may be his peculiar worship, the oath most binding upon him is that by his own divinity or whatever description of oath, for a very long time past, may have been established by persons of the greatest sanctity and purest religion as the most binding oath, such oaths are acknowledged, and must be taken as most solemn. This sentence is found in the book called *Sood Bhewek, &c.*

THE BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER.

THE following letter and remarks concerning the discoveries recently made in respect to the Brahmaputra, are from the *Calcutta Gazette*.

To the Editor of the Government Gazette.

Sir: Having just perused in your paper of the 16th November, your promised notice respecting the sources of the Irawadi, I cannot forbear troubling you with the following, perhaps not uninteresting, remarks on the possible connexion of the *Dihong* with the *Sanpoo*, or *Dzangbu*, to use the orthography of M. Klaproth.

Had this erudite gentleman paid to Burlington's map and notes the attention they so fully merited, he could not have failed to find in the great river *Dihong* ample subject to increase the field of his speculations; but others (as well as yourself, learned sir), led along by name alone, have also fallen into a state of forgetfulness respecting that river.

That the Burrumpooter, which flows past Suddeeyah, has no connexion with the Sanpoo, I will not dispute, as that point has been proved beyond a doubt; but I see no reason to conclude, that the body of water which flows through Assam, under the name of *Lohit* or Burrumpooter, is not from Tibet, and is not called in the upper part of its course the *Sanpoo*, even after reading all that has been put forth on the subject by you.

The world was perfectly satisfied with Rennell's reasoning; his facts remain the same; and as yet I have seen no reason why his inferences should be called "erroneous." Consult the eye alone in examining the accompanying rough sketch—assuredly we should not look for a connexion of the Sanpoo with the eastern branch of the Burrumpooter, which so unfairly swallows up the *Dihong* in its name, even as it is lost in the Megna.

Consider the fact stated by Burlington, so long since, and since proved beyond a doubt by Lieutenant Wilcox and others, that the Burrumpooter discharges less than one-half the quantity of water discharged by the *Dihong*.

To the Burrumpooter we assign a course of 150 miles beyond the junction of my sketch, that is, we consider its sources so far distant: judging both from vague accounts obtained of old, and from the information elicited by Lieutenant Wilcox, in his travels to the eastward. And shall we not allow the sources of a river more than twice as large to be still more distant?

Learn, sir, the opinion of the Bor Abors, as to the direction of the sources of their river. I understand, that to Mr. Scott and to Lieutenant Wilcox they distinctly stated, "that their country extends on both banks of the *Dihong*, at least fifty miles in a N.W. direction." The tribes beyond are hostile to them, and of their own knowledge they cannot give a further account.

I have but one more argument to state: it is, that merchants from Lhassa, one of whom had journeyed from that place to China, gave to Mr. Scott, at Durung, a sketch of the grand bends of their *Dzangbu*, which they said flows at last to the south, and is lost to them on entering the hilly country of the "Abors and Duphlas."

Were we to depend implicitly on their report, we must suppose the Soobunsheeree to be the outlet of the Sanpoo, as it flows between the Abor and Duphla countries; but, comparing that river with the *Dihong*, we cannot choose but give the preference to the latter.

You have perused nothing novel in this hasty note. The greater part of what I have herein stated has surely appeared before, in your own excellent paper; and I feel strong ire, sir, that the argument which in the present state of our knowledge appears to me so convincing, seems to have made no impression on you or others.

I am, your very obedient servant,

Suddeeya, 16th Dec. 1826.

AN INQUIRER.

P.S. The little basin so often, of late, called the "Bramah Koond," is properly named the "Prubhu Koot'har." Purusu Rama halted there. Uninformed Assamese, mistaking it for the Koond, have caused the error.

There

There are, no doubt, occasions on which indignation is legitimate, and it is excusable in an individual to be angry. It is no more than reasonable in any one who has laboured to instruct the public, to be somewhat vexed to find his toils of no avail; and we are not offended therefore with our correspondent, "An Inquirer," because his ire is excited against Klaproth and ourselves for persisting to deny the identity of the San-po and the Brahmaputra: on the contrary, we are much obliged to him for having taken the pains to set us right. As for Klaproth, we have nothing to plead in his favour; but we may offer a word of defence in our own behalf. This is easily done: we may have used expressions which, in their full sense, deny any connexion between the Brahmaputra and the river of Tibet, but we did not intend thereby the northern branch of the former, the *Dihong*. That this stream may be connected with the San-po, we are not aware that we have ever questioned: that the eastern branch of the river, which is the Lohit or Brahmaputra Proper of the Hindus, is distinct from the San-po, our correspondent admits, and it was to this branch alone that our denial applied. It appears to us that it was to this branch also that Rennell's theory was applicable, as he professes no suspicion of the extension of the Brahmaputra to the east of the place where it is identifiable with the San-po. Even, therefore, if the Dihong should be found connected with the great Tibet river, we can scarcely admit that Rennell was altogether correct in his conclusions.

In fact, Rennell's account of the matter is very vague. On finding that the Brahmaputra entered Bengal from the east, his inquiries, he says, traced it to within 100 miles of the place where Du Halde left the San-po, and he could no longer doubt that they were one and the same river. He says not a word about latitudes and longitudes, which would have enabled us to judge of his accuracy with more precision. Now, according to Du Halde's maps, as reduced by subsequent geographers, the San-po is lost in about N. lat. $28^{\circ} 10'$, and E. long. $95^{\circ} 40'$; but the Brahmaputra, in the latitude of about 28° , has been traced to longitude 97° , and by information to $97\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$: accordingly, the union of these rivers is very improbable. The Dihong is in about longitude 95° , which makes its identity with the San-po still more probable. With respect to the Soobunshiri, may not that be connected with the Om-chu of Du Halde, which is lost something to the westward of the San-po, but running in a direction to the south-east, and possibly uniting with the latter, which has a course, on the map, nearly due south? It must be always recollected, however, that the Jesuit missionaries did not visit Tibet, but compiled their maps from native information. Whatever value Klaproth may attach to Chinese or Manchu geographers, we cannot feel any confidence in their accuracy, and consequently place little dependence on any results derived from this source only. Certainty can be obtained by observation alone; and from the talent and enterprise displayed throughout the whole of the inquiries along the Brahmaputra, and its ramifications, we are satisfied, that nothing practicable will be left undone towards determining accurately the geography of the hitherto unexplored region which is the field of discovery.

We have been favoured with a few further particulars of the excursion to the eastward which we lately noticed, and which we understand was undertaken by Lieut. Wilcox, with a small party of Asamese followers. The assemblage of a numerous party of armed men, at the residence of a chief who had kept suspiciously aloof, coupled with information, which there was no reason to question, that the object was plunder, if not more mischievous, induced Lieut. Wilcox to retrace his steps: it was his intention, however,

however, on being provided with a stronger escort, to resume his journey immediately. He followed the southern bank of the river in his first route, but it was his intention to cross and proceed on this occasion by the northern bank, which is said to be a better road. Throughout the first part of the route the hills are of limestone, and are covered with trees: beyond the Taen villages there is considerable cultivation and grass jungle, which gives way to firs. As far as the progress extended, the firs were small; but at a short distance they are said to attain very considerable size, and spread over the steep declivities of the mountains to the water's edge. They continue through the contiguous portions of the Lama's country, in which the mountains leave a larger space of level land at their bases, on which the towns and villages are situated: there are said to be fifteen of these on the Talooka, or northern branch of the Brahmaputra. The source of this last branch is reported to be amongst inaccessible mountains, and the people from the eastward come down the southern branch, the Talooding, to its junction with the Talooka, where they form the eastern portion of the Brahmaputra. Nothing is known of the Irawadi in this part of the country; and its connexion with the San-po, as conjectured by Klaproth, seems therefore highly improbable.

CHINESE MORAL MAXIMS.*

From a Treatise attributed to Kwan-foo-tsze.

Venerate heaven and earth; perform the rites to the Gods;

Worship your ancestors; be dutiful to your parents.

Keep the king's laws; revere your teachers and superiors;

Love your brothers; be true to your friends.

Live in harmony with your kindred; agree with your neighbours;

Let husband and wife mind their respective duties, and teach their children and grandchildren.

Do what is good for others; multiply acts of charity;

Assist those who are in trouble and adversity; pity the fatherless and poor.

Build and repair temples; make and print moral and religious books;

Give medicine and tea; avoid killing animals, and give them liberty.

Contribute money to promote good designs; give instruction to the ignorant;

Make peace between enemies; use just measures and balances.

Approach near to the virtuous; keep aloof from the bad;

Conceal men's vices and publish their virtues; do good to all and help the common people.

Make bridges and repair roads; have compassion on the widow and oppressed;

Esteem grain; be moderate in plenty; remove the difficulties and disputes of others.

Turn the mind to right principles; reform errors and renew yourself;

Cherish benevolence and kindness; retain no vicious thought.

Be sincere in virtue, and reverently practice it;

Though man see not thy deeds, they are exposed to the Gods.

* Translated by Dr. Morrison.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

THE fate of Greece, which ere this has probably been sealed by the fall of Athens, and the destruction of what remained of its noble monuments, will excite an additional feeling of interest respecting that portion of the insular Greeks, who are shielded from Turkish oppression by being under British protection. We have read with much pleasure, in a foreign literary journal, the following letter from Mr. A. Kalvos, a native of one of the Ionian islands, exhibiting a picture of the condition of his country, to a friend in Paris, in which capital he appears to have resided for some time and formed literary connexions. The letter is dated "Corfu, 17th February 1827:"—

"The Ionian islands, blessed with the happiest climate in Europe, have been described in all the books of geography as highly fertile, and consequently extremely rich. Forests of olive trees cover the hills of Zante, Leucadia, Paxos, and Corcyra, or Corfu; vineyards as far as the eye can reach overspread the plains and base of the mountains; gardens planted with orange, citron, and pomegranate trees, encircle the towns and the country houses; innumerable groves of cypress, and fir, as well as many palm-trees, shoot up and occasionally intercept the prospect of this enchanting picture. Even in the months of December and January, the markets of the different towns are filled with flowers, which elsewhere are never seen to bloom till the midst of spring. The traveller who coasts along this charming country would wish to stop in it; and he who stays but a few days is desirous of spending his life there.

"But if, in all that regards the climate of these islands, the statements which are given to the world are not deficient in accuracy, the assertions of geographers are less worthy of credit in respect to their wealth and prosperity. The population, which in 1750 consisted of about 230,000 souls, is now reduced to somewhere near two-thirds of that amount. This enormous decrease is owing neither to war, to pestilence, to emigration, nor to bad air; poverty alone is the cause. Families are very frequently found to sink from the highest to the lowest classes; whilst the chances of a very limited commerce, or of accumulated successions, elevate but a slender number from an inferior to a superior rank. Marriages diminish every year considerably; and the phenomenon which alone offers a contrast, in some measure, to the ordinary consequences of a falling off in the number of births, is, that mortality amongst the children continues nearly in the same proportion as in the most prosperous times.

"It would, however, be doing great injustice to the Ionians to attribute the poverty under which they grow to indolence alone. If the husbandman does not know how to derive his full advantage from the soil he inhabits, or from his time; if the proprietor, unprovided with instruction, is disqualified from directing the cultivation of his lands; if the rest of the citizens are ignorant of the arts and sciences; we must tax our backward civilization rather than our idleness. Our oils cannot enter into competition with those of Italy and Provence, because we do not know how to prepare them; unacquainted with the art of making wines which can bear distant carriage, we produce no more than is required for the consumption of the country; and although our *Corinthian grape* will always be in request, yet the small revenue we draw from thence is expended in clothes, the purchase of corn, cattle, wood, and the furniture of our houses. We have long renounced the hope of accumulating capital; we think ourselves extremely fortunate if we have wherewithal to live.

live. All that ignorance can inflict upon a nation in union with a people advanced in science and the arts, has been experienced by us, as if our doom was irrevocably decreed.

"Some people advise us to invite to our aid foreign artizans and cultivators, and we would do so if this expedient were not a mere palliative. But since the habits and moral condition of our population will remain the same; since we shall be incapable of comprehending the means of happiness, and consequently of admitting and encouraging useful establishments; instead of adopting the plan proposed exclusively, we have proposed another expedient, which ought to succeed with us, as it has succeeded in other places. It is that of extending public education to all classes: the execution of this project was begun by the activity and perseverance of a generous stranger.

"When Lord Guildford, in 1820, made a tour in these islands, for the purpose of ascertaining the proper methods of securing the prosperity of divers establishments for public instruction, he found only a small number of schools, and these in a deplorable state. Greek and English, arithmetic and mathematics, were taught there; but although the teachers were able, the number of pupils was very limited, and constantly fluctuating. A regular and perfect system of education was necessary: it was requisite to multiply the schools, to collect a larger number of scholars, to render them assiduous, and to simplify the mode of instruction. In France and England the inferior classes of the people, who have the example of the higher orders before their eyes, know how to appreciate the benefits of education; but in the Ionian islands, such an impulse is altogether wanting. It was therefore requisite to enter into the workman's dwelling, to visit the different villages, and in the absence of examples, to substitute argument and solicitation to persuade and urge the people to seize the advantages of intellectual culture and improved morals. The state of the schools of mutual instruction at the present day is shewn in the following statement:

Name of the Islands.	Inhabitants.	Number of Schools.	Number of Scholars.
Corcyra, or Corfu	48,737	3	239
Paxos	3,970	1	40
Zacynthus, or Zante	40,063	13	363
Cephalonia	49,857	2	157
Ithaca	8,200	1	87
Leucadia... ..	17,425	1	75
Cythrea, or Cerigo	8,140	8	772
	<hr/> 176,392	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 1,733

"At the same time that the inferior classes are prepared for a change so beneficial in respect to morality and industry, care is taken of the young nobility, who had hitherto received no kind of education. For them has been specially appropriated, in Cephalonia, about four miles from Argostoli, a college built upon an eminence, near an ancient Venetian fortress. It overlooks, on one side, the open sea, in the midst of which, like a floating garden, appears the island of Zacynthus; and on the other, the magnificent port of Argostoli, locked in by the lofty mountains of the island. The beautiful spectacle of nature, the tranquillity which reigns around, the purity of the air, impregnated with odours from the cultivated hills upon which it is built, concur admirably with the lessons adapted to form these youths, who are destined to direct the public affairs of their native country. A certain gentle-
ness

ness of manners, a sort of idolatrous admiration of the beauties of nature, a serenity of spirit, are amongst the qualifications necessary for public men; and certainly the situation of this college is well calculated to inspire elevated sentiments, and to make the sweetest impressions upon the heart.

"The university of the Ionian islands was not opened till the autumn of 1823. It is situated upon an immense rock, which forms part of the island, and almost of the city, of Coreyra. It must excite surprise to learn that in that year it contained sixteen professors, most of whom were of the first order. Thus our establishment, when it shall have been well appreciated by the nation, may rival the institutions of the same kind which exist in the other states of Europe; and the traveller, who shall visit our country, will no longer be afflicted to find the descendants of the ancient Greeks plunged in base ignorance, and a population of 170,000 souls in wretchedness and misery. Almost all these young professors have studied in the most celebrated universities, at the expense of Lord Guildford; so that we have collected in our university a selection of learned men, whose minds are stored with knowledge acquired in England, Germany, France, and Italy. This circumstance gives us reason to hope that *exclusiveness* in respect to opinions will not be the characteristic of our intellectual education.

"The following is a list of thirty-one chairs which are provisionally divided amongst the acting professors: Theology, 3; civil law, 3; medicine, 3; botany, 1; agriculture, 1; chemistry, 1; mathematics, 5; philosophy, 2; music, 1; rhetoric, 1; Greek literature, 2; English language and literature, 2; Latin literature, 1; history, 3; archæology, 1; physics, 1.

"The lyceum, which furnishes students for the university, forms a part of the same building: this contributes to inspire the younger students with emulation, and disposes them to feel more confidence in themselves, since they proceed from class to class to higher lessons.

"Formerly the lower orders of our island spoke a *patois*, composed of mutilated Greek phrases, and a Venetian dialect destitute of its grace. The nobles themselves were ashamed to use the Greek as well as the pure Italian. The inhabitants of the country alone preserved a little of the primitive dialect of the country; but in time, they would doubtless have imitated the inhabitants of the towns. At present, since all the lessons are given in Greek, the students are beginning to diffuse beyond the precincts of the university, forms of language richer and more elegant than those which are employed in continental Greece. In ten or fifteen years to come, our language will be fixed; then the ridiculous custom will disappear of employing in a Greek city a corrupted Italian jargon, even in the courts and the National Assembly.

"When the number of the professors is complete, the establishment will cost in the whole to the state 25,000 *talaris* (about £5,000) which will circulate throughout the country, and attract other wealth from foreign nations; whereas, before the opening of the university, more than 36,000 *talaris* (about £7,500) was sent out of the islands every year for the education of a sixtieth part of our youth, who went to study in Italy.

"See what we owe to the worthy chancellor of our university, to Lord Guildford alone! But this is not the limit of his benevolence. Whilst Government provides at its own expense for the instruction in theology of one hundred young ecclesiastics, who will one day spread instruction in the country, and sustain the enlightened piety of the faithful, his lordship provides, at his own expense, for the instruction of forty youths, destined to

be either learned judges, just and honourable merchants, or industrious cultivators.

"The library, which had no existence two years ago, already contains 30,000 volumes of choice works, of which a great number are the property of our benefactor. Amongst those particularly worthy of remark, are the rare and curious collection of all the publications in modern Greek, which have appeared from the time when the language was first used in composition, to the present day; and another not less valuable collection of manuscripts, mostly Italian, containing historical documents of great interest.

"We have lately formed a small botanical garden, which promises to become an object of curiosity. In a climate where orange-trees bear fruit and flowers in the open air in the middle of December, you may well imagine that we have no trouble in raising plants which you are obliged to imprison in green-houses.

"The school of design and sculpture has already produced some works which want perhaps only the varnish of antiquity to be viewed with admiration. We expect a professor of painting, who is now at Rome, and I trust we shall destroy the ill opinions which our ancestors have left behind.

"You have now before you an imperfect sketch of what has been accomplished here, in respect to education, in the short space of six years. I cannot tell you of the influence which these early attempts have already exerted upon the manners and industry of the country; but we may flatter ourselves with enjoying before long the delightful spectacle of a people rendered happy by means of intellectual refinement."

Every subject connected with the affairs of Greece is calculated to renew the painful reflection that this brave and determined, though perhaps imprudent and unthinking, people, have been in some degree sacrificed. Had the Greeks from the beginning been taught to rely upon their own exertions alone for deliverance; had they not been seduced to believe that other nations, and England in particular, were prompt to assist their struggles, their efforts would probably have been more strenuous and more judicious, whilst their enemy would have been less alert and diligent. It is lamentable, whilst we read of the destruction of the relics of ancient Grecian art, and the extermination of the descendants of those to whom we owe more of the elegancies, if not of the conveniences, of civilized life, than we are ready to allow,—to think that these may have been the effects of those disgraceful transactions on the part of the pseudo-philanthropists, who had the fingering of the Greek loans. Public attention cannot be too often called to this subject; it is fit, for the sake of example, that the veil of oblivion should not be too hastily drawn over offences, the mischievous consequences of which we cannot even yet discern to the full extent.

Whatever be the faults of the Greeks, they possess a true heroism of character. The answer given by the garrison of Athens to the terms offered by the Turkish general, when conveyed to them by Capt. le Blanc, of the French navy, is worthy of ancient Grecians: "We thank you for the trouble you have taken on our account. The capitulation proposed by the Seraskier speaks of 'subjects of the Porte.' There are none here. We are Greeks; we will live free, or die. If the Seraskier desires to have our arms, he has only to come and take them by force."

HINDU HISTORY OF CEYLON.

(Translated from a Poem in the Tamul Language.)

Verse 1. Before I relate the rise and progress of Ceylon, I adore the elephant-faced Pullear, son of the only Being who made all worlds.

2. I also adore (bearing upon my head his feet) the Supreme Being whose office, in the country called Malliganagar, is to prosper the kingly state.

3. I will now begin to relate the tribes of the King of Ceylon, the manner in which this island has been peopled, and the extirpation of the giants therefrom, as well as how it became a kingdom.

4. Moreover, I will attempt to relate (although it is impossible for me to do it fully) how it has been ruled by divisions, subject to kings who succeeded the King of the Tribe of the Sun, and the hardships they underwent.

5. I thanked and praised Soobatittoo, son of Tadeesy, who proceeded from Agattiar of mount Podiamamaley, in consideration of his being the author of the history I am about to relate.

6. Wise men will not despise the perfume of the civet-cat, milk and honey; in like manner, I hope every man of understanding will accept this narrative as the flower of the pool.

7. The wise Wya of the tribe of Tadeesy has related this history of the kingdom of Ceylon in proper Tamul.

8. In the beginning of the Kalee yug (iron age), which contained 48 lac, 448,000 years,* the giant named Ravenen, son of Watcherewagoo, King of Ceylon, proceeded to Ayottec, from whence he by artifice and treachery carried to Ceylon the most beautiful Seedy, wife of Rama, son of Tesatarar, and immured her there.

9. Rama, learning this, immediately summoned his brother Letchoomanen, with Anoomen, Sambooven, and Sookripen, to his assistance, and having killed the giant Vawly, he also summoned Coomooden and Aditten, as well as Angaden and Neelen, together with many hosts of monkies as his warriors, and entered Ceylon.

10. The famous Vepooshanen, brother of Ravenen, hearing the arrival of Rama at Ceylon, went to him and took refuge under his protection.

11. Rama then fought with and killed the giant Ravenen, and recovered his wife Seedy, after which he crowned Vepooshanen, and made him King of Ceylon.

12. The people and the widows and families of the killed, having represented to Vepooshanen their miserable situation, and want of protectors in consequence of the fall of their chiefs in battle, attempted to cross the sea, upon which King Vepooshanen commanded some paravas of the race of Sambooven to protect them.

13. Afterwards, by permission of King Vepooshanen, a famous musician cultivated a place near the sea-shore, in the northern part of Ceylon, with jack, palmira, areca-nut, and cocoa-nut trees, sugar-cane, and other fruits, like the tree called catpagataroo (in heaven) which yields every desired thing.

14. In this manner, having made it a delightful place with charming gardens, full of fruit trees of various kinds, and having erected beautiful buildings, the famous musician remembering God went to Coolakadiven, who holds the bow in his hands, cousin of Tesatarar, and requested him to commission a prince to rule over the country he had made.

15. Coolkadiven,

* The Kali yuga consists of 432,000 years only.

15. Coolekadiven, in compliance with this request, commissioned one of his sons, named Sakkrowady, who was lame in the hand, to rule Yawlpanam (Jaffnapatnam) in Ceylon, and he, the prince, accordingly ruled it 3,000 years in the Kalee age.

16. In his reign one Mawroodepoorewe, who was born horse-faced (with Singekedoe, both of the tribe of the sons of Ookkresolen, son-in-law of Kookkedoo, King of Ayottee), went in search of the best Teertams (holy rivers), in order to bathe in and remove the deformity; at length she arrived at Ceylon, where she bathed in the famous Teertam, called Keerimale, which changed the horse face. She called that place therefore Mawittepooram, and praising God, declared that none of the fourteen Teertams was equal to this.

17. She proceeded to Cadiremaly, and after having worshipped Candeswamy, son of Aran, Mawroodepoorewe lived as wife to Oekkremaasingesenen, who afterwards went to Adangapattoo, and having built a palace at Wawittymale, dwelt therein.

18. A child was born to him with a lion's face and tail; and at that time Veepooshanen, being desirous of going to glory, made this child king of all Ceylon with the title of Wararasasingam;

19. And bestowed upon him the crown, sword, sakaram (which subdues the whole world under his feet), the club and ring, all of which he was endowed with by Rama, who also subjected to him the deity Weeramagaley, that he might overcome all his enemies.

20. This King Wararasasingam sent messengers to Singekedoo, to request a wife for him; they proceeded accordingly to the King of Madura;

21. Who, rejoicing at this request, selected a body of sixty bands of the tribes of Wannias and of kings as well as of the Wedas;

22. And directed them to conduct his daughter to Ceylon, and give her in marriage to the king.

23. He bestowed on them white umbrellas (sakaram), pearl umbrellas, chariots, and all other distinguishing honours; thereupon the noblemen mounted their horses,

24. And proceeded to Ceylon, where they celebrated the marriage between the king and Samatoody, daughter of King Paundian; after which the king desired these bands to settle in and rule Adangapattoo.

25. Agreeably to the desire of the king, they proceeded towards the northern part and settled there.

26. They then sent messengers to the coast in a ship with directions to bring the Brahmins and other castes.

27. The messengers asked to whom they were to apply for this purpose; they desired them to apply to Illenjinga Mapanen, Meydeven, Tidewira, Sinagrapan, Rasingan Nallewagoo;

28. Who at the requisition of the messengers immediately commissioned a number of families of the eighteen castes,

29. From Madura, Maroonjoor, Teroochilapally, Malenadoo, Malealem, Tondemandelem, and other places; who, having got leave, proceeded to Ceylon;

30. Namely, Mooellemalanen, Sumemalanen, Aroolaliaunel, Saroogoomalanen, and Walchingaaratchy. Having arrived at Mullipattoo, where they made tanks containing tamara trees, they settled and governed the Chundas there;

31. This happened 3,300 years in the Kalee age. In those days a certain Chitty,

Chitty, named Weeranaranen, for the purpose of fishing and procuring pearls for Alliarasany, sailed in a boat which, in consequence of a storm, drifted near a mountain on the sea-shore.

32. Which mountain he called Coodiremaley, and there planted *Maycotte* trees; *pottalecanja*, *sanjeevee*, and other medicinal herbs, and such as were useful for making gold, silver, and iron; and also he deposited there in a large well 70,000 elephants' load of gold, to guard which he also placed there the deity *Kawelee*.

33. Then he established near the beach *Callechilamam* and *Cadelchilawem* (pearl fishery places) and having placed there the deity *Ayanar*, he proceeded to *Chitti Coolapattoo* and made there a pool named *Wawley*, and called the place itself *Chittycoolam*.

34. He likewise built in that place a temple called *Sandresegrancoll*, and deposited in a well beside that pool 60,000 elephants' load of gold, to guard which he placed the deity *Sadamoodiser*, and then departed this life; after which that place was governed by Portuguese under *Adisitta*, who became the chief thereof.

35. The *Chandas* ruled *Mullipattoo*, the *Pareas* of the tribe of *Wellucoolam* governed *Canookiny*, and the *Carooveekyan* or *Barber* governed *Mount Nanmaley*.

36. In those days, two *Wedas*, named *Sagaran* and *Magaran*, governed *Tanikalloo*, and the giants who retreated in the war of *Rama* ruled *Kilakkoomooley*, and *Poodem*, or demons, governed *Meerkoomooley*.

37. The kings, perceiving the atrocity of these governments, were grieved, and sent messengers to *Madura*, from whence the tribes of *Arier* desirous of visiting *Ceylon* arrived there in boats:

38. Namely, the person of the tribe of *Arien*, his armies, his wife *Dilly*, and *Tideweeresingan*, *Koodekarattan*, *Moodikatan*, *Meydewen*, *Poovangy*, *Rasingen*, *Singewagoo* *Tadegymorpur* *Sodeyen*,

39. *Angesingen*, *Cattien* *Kalingarayan*, *Aroolmoodior*, *Soobatittoo*, *Adiweeren*, *Keppeynar*, *Mutchiar*, *Appynar*, *Sodiweeran*, *Kandawan*, *Kalecondan*, *Moodiorweeran*, *Moodiaresen*, *Kapali*, *Weeren* *Waleyooditan*, *Sokkenaden*,

40. *Secdoopady* *Arasooooriweereen*, *Illenjinga*, *Mapanen*, *Nieletewen*, *Tannattar*, *Waripattar*, *Kapalimoomtever*, *Malanateven*, *Wagoo*, *Singepoopady*, people of *Bengal* and *Copekiry* and *Wecrawagoo* of the race of *Coolekotten*;

41. *Kykoolas* or weavers, *chandos*, *Coosaver* or potters, *Waley*, *Chinese*, *Karalar* or *Vellales*, *Tamiler*, *Parever* or fishermen, their women, dancers, *Marawas*, *Maliagam*, *Agambadus*, *Comatties*, *Cannadar*, *Cingalese* people, carpenters, goldsmiths, coppersmiths, ironsmiths; all these casts of people settled at *Jaffnapatnam*.

42. Afterwards *Tidewieresingan* proceeded to *Canookeny*, and after having killed the *pareas* of the tribe of *Veellicoolam*, who were there, he became a ruler of that place; and *Nallamalanen* and *Meydeven* with the armies proceeded to *Mullipattoo* to destroy the *Chandas* of the tribe of *Sandrewen*.

43. And having exiled the people of the tribe of *Sandrewen* ruled there; after which *Nalynan* and *Wagooteven* proceeded to *Tanikalloo*, killed the *Wedas* who were there, and governed that place; then *Illenjingawagoo* set out to destroy the giants and demons who were in the east and west of *Tanikalloo*:

44. And having killed them he ruled those places, when *Soobatittoo* of *Tillanagar* proceeded to the place possessed by *Neelan*, the barber, and having killed him, he became ruler instead.

45. *Cattur*,

45. Cattur, Calingan, Maliager, and a number of brass-founders, lived at Catchay, Covias at Tellivayel and Palley; Agampadiar Potter, and ironsmiths at Chevegachery; Etteer or Chitties and Mookias at Pooncryn.

46. Mookiner settled at Telliwan, Keppiner and others on the sea-shore; Oomechy at Caroowattookery, Angasan at Cattookoolapady and Singawayoo at Trincomalee.

47. Madangamamoogan at Wecroogel Tamblegamem, Babootittoo at Cottiar, Mavoonen on the other side of the river Magewenar.

48. Nayeckemar and Sooriesingam, who settled at the sea-shore joined with the fifty-four persons of the caste of Wannias, and proceeded to destroy the Asooras, making war with them.

49. And in that war the fifty-four Wannias were killed; but the others, by remembering the deity, Kawlee, conquered the Asooras; after which five Wannias ruled the Wanny district, dividing the same into five provinces.

50. In the year 3393 of the Kalee age, a certain Chitty, named Managa, solicited King Solen to obtain a snake-gem for his daughter Cannagey.

51. The King Solen commanded the navigator to proceed in a ship, and after killing Vedarasan and Wolken to bring the required gem; they accordingly proceeded, and having vanquished those two persons brought the gem, which he delivered to Cannagey.

52. Afterwards, Vedarasan, of the Mookia caste, proceeded to Batticaloa, and having cleared the jungles, settled there; and Mira, the Toolken, went and settled at Wertettivoo.

53. Then the five Wannias assembled together, and made Illengingawagoo king of the Wanny districts, and Meydewen, Nallawagoo and Rasinga, his ministers and generals; and placed the territories under them.

54. Moreover they having desired Illengingawagoo to give the dominion afterwards to Coolingyar, took their voyage to Madura, but on the sea the whales devoured them, and their wives continued to govern their places at Madura.

55. In this manner, while these wives of the Wannias were ruling, a certain person one day, mounted upon his horse, passed through the street they lived in, which they seeing, grieved at it, and determined to quit the place and to go to Ceylon, for which purpose they sent for the navigator named Pilippen;

56. Who accordingly conveyed them in ships to Ceylon, accompanied by Nallateven, Seeralen, Sopekery, Sokkriven Angosan, Singattimapanen, Tatparayen, Aravan, and Segakodien;

57. Tillemoovayirewer, Chitties, Wanitisewenader, people of Coodeloor, of Mullenadoo Paras Mookias, Pareuas, three kinds of Wantias, blacksmiths, Maravas, barbers, Comatty Corias, carpenters, copper-smiths, and the eighteen coodimarkal or servants, tader and sangamer, or chank blowers:

58. Also Coochiliar, Agambadier, Capaler, Cavares, dancers, as well as those living at Nynativoo, Mamoonetivoo of the tribe of fishermen; Maliagem, Sakklier, or shoemaker, and Aria brahmins:

59. Maloovas Ottian, Tottiar, the children of Mangemaden, three kinds of Wantias; Willewer Talikares; tom-tom beaters; and other persons who play on different kinds of musical instruments.

(The remainder next month.)

EXCURSION IN SIAM.

WE have been favoured with some notices of the eastern peninsula, to the south and east of our new possessions, which we propose offering to our readers as descriptive of a country, rarely, if ever, visited by Europeans, until late events led to a more frequent communication between the British and Siamese authorities. In consequence of this improved intercourse, and particularly with reference to the exchange of prisoners, several journeys were performed by land, in different directions, by two of the officers of the mission (of Capt. Burney), Mr. Harris, sub-assistant surgeon, and the interpreter, Mr. Leal, to whose notes we have been kindly permitted to have access.

One of the first excursions, and which was performed by both the gentlemen we have named, proceeded from Ligor, a principality dependant upon Siam, and a town and seaport upon the eastern coast of the peninsula. Some accounts of this place may be found in Hamilton, who visited this quarter in 1719, but his notice is very brief and defective. The French, when established at Siam, endeavoured to have a plan taken of the town, but were not permitted; and scarcely any notice of the place is found in the work of La Loubere. The Dutch had a factory there from the beginning of the seventeenth century to the middle of the last, the remains of which are still shewn in some old brick foundations where it is said to have stood.

The town of Ligor is at a short distance from the bank of the Ta-yung, or Tha-wung river, at about two hours' rowing from the mouth of the river; from the bank of the river to the town the road is good, leading through an avenue of trees. Ligor is in form an oblong square; it is defended by walls, with ramparts, and a wet ditch, which, during the rains, communicates with the river. It contains about 5,000 inhabitants, and appears to have been at one time much more populous, but it has suffered considerably within the last half century, having been twice taken, and many of its inhabitants having been carried off, first by Alompra, and secondly, by one of the generals of Minderagee, the last Burmese sovereign. According to the conscription rolls of this state, the males capable of bearing arms are about 12,000.

The chief of Ligor is one amongst the native princes to the eastward who have shewn a decided disposition to cultivate a friendly footing with the English. He is, in some respects, dependant on Siam, but absolute in his own government, and has a great influence in Bangkok, through his wife, who is the cousin of the King, and their daughter, who is one of the King of Siam's wives, and has lately borne his Majesty a son and heir. There are three or four commissioners sent to Ligor by the Siamese court; but the chief treats them with very little consideration, and they exercise, except on occasion of his absence, no authority whatever. He has in his hands the power of life and death.

The town of Ligor stands on a very extensive plain, which appears to reach to the great central range of mountains, and is covered with rice cultivation. There is a little pepper cultivated in the interior, and some iron ore collected; but the tin mines are much neglected, and said to be exhausted. There appears to be no direct trade with China, Cochin China, or other foreign ports: what little trade there is, is with Siam, and it is entirely engrossed by the chief. There is not a single brick dwelling-house in the town, but a great many temples and pyramids of that material, most of them in ruins. The chief's house is of plank, with a tiled roof; it is situated within the fort, which consists

consists of an old high wall, in a most dilapidated condition, and without a gun mounted on any part within or upon it.

There is no difficulty in approaching or quitting the coast of Ligor, although, from the high swell and surf during northerly winds, and the shoal at the end of Tantalam island, the roadstead cannot be considered safe during the height of the N.E. monsoon. The anchorage ground is of soft mud; there are three fathoms at about two miles and a half from the mouth of the Tha-wung river, which is a little to the northward of the Ligor river: the two rivers join a little way inland, and the latter is little used.

The jealousy of the Siamese court precluded the possibility of taking advantage of a favourable opportunity of proceeding from Ligor to Bangkok entirely by land, but permitted the journey as far as the village of Pathiu, situated in about lat. $11^{\circ} 10'$.

From Ligor, the first day's journey (18th December), passed over extensive plains, watered by the Tha-wung river, to the village of Nam-Jin, or "cold water." The party accompanied the Raja of Ligor, whose suite consisted of between three and four hundred persons, with eighty elephants: temporary houses were erected for his accommodation at every stage. The second day's march, proceeded through thick jungles and occasional rice fields, to a place called Ban Hooa Thaphan, close to the sea-shore.

The third day's route led over very bad roads to the village of Ban Clai, chiefly tenanted by Chinese, on the right bank of the Clai river, about three miles from its mouth: the river is about 100 yards wide opposite to the village, but it is much narrower at the mouth, being choaked with the sands gathered at the bar, against which the surf beats as violently as at Madras. The bed of the river, which runs between lofty banks, is sandy, and the water very clear. The village contains about 1,000 persons. This place is the Clay of Horsburgh's charts.

From Ban Clai to Ban Krang, the next day's journey, from half-past seven in the morning till six in the afternoon. The road lay chiefly through jungle, but several villages were passed, and a couple of small streams. The halting place was situated at the foot of a hill on a beautiful plain, through which flowed a fine clear stream, called the Khlong Krang.

On the following day a march of equal duration terminated at Hooa Nah: early in the afternoon an extensive range of lofty mountains was visible on the left of the road. The next day's march was intersected by a number of small streams, and led through thick jungle, in which tigers are sometimes encountered. The following march terminated at the Siamese village of Ban Chekram after crossing the river of the same name. The bamboos here are of an enormous size, and the joints are used for domestic vessels for holding water and other purposes.

The journey for three days more passed over the same kind of country, in which thick jungle alternated with open plains, sometimes in cultivation, and small streams occasionally intersected the road. The evening of the third day brought the party to a broad and rapid river, the Tha-kham, near the mouth of which is situated the town of Phoon-phin, a place containing about 1,200 Siamese inhabitants, under the authority of a Chinese officer. It is celebrated for its steel, of which the swords of all the great officers of the court are manufactured. The Tha-kham is the northern boundary of the jurisdiction of the Raja of Ligor. A branch runs to the southward to the town of Bandon, where it opens into the sea, and whence it is usually termed the Bandon river.

The

The northern branch of the Tha-kham empties itself into the sea at a place called Tha-thong, which bounds the Ligor territory on the sea-coast: a number of small islands lie off the mouth of the Bandon river. The Tha-kham proceeds nearly across the peninsula, passing to Pennom, a town three days' journey from Poonga, on the western coast opposite to Junkceylon, the tin and other produce of which island find their way by this route to Bankok.

During the next two days the road ran through extensive tracts of rice cultivation to a village a short distance from Chhaiya, one of the most considerable towns on the route: it is defended by a stockade, and contains about 2,000 Siamese, besides a number of Chinese. It stands upon a broad stream, or probably an arm of the sea, and carries on a considerable traffic, chiefly in grain: the inhabitants of the province are estimated at 18,000 or 19,000.

On the second day after quitting Chhaiya, the road led to the sea-shore, and continued for some distance along a smooth and firm beach, lined with casuarina trees, and free from surf. The mouths of two small rivers were crossed on the second day.

On the day following (the 8th January) the travellers proceeded inland, partially through jungle, to the right bank of a large river, the Lang Sewun, on the opposite side of which was a village containing about 600 inhabitants, chiefly Malays. The next two days offered little variety; several streams were crossed, and the second day's halt was at Suwi, a town containing about 2,000 inhabitants, with a Siamese governor of the rank of Phra: the road was good, leading between paddy fields. The same kind of road continued throughout the two succeeding days to the town of Ch'hoomphon, on the right bank of the river so named, which pursues a very winding course, in a sandy bed, between lofty banks. The town is stockaded, and is said to contain 8,000 inhabitants. It was formerly the entrepôt of a very valuable trade with the coast of Tenasserim; but subsequent to the subjugation of Tenasserim by the Burmans, Ch'hoomphon has been little else than a military post, where a force was stationed to watch the proceedings of the Burmans, and make occasional kidnapping inroads into their territory. The Governor of Ch'hoomphon, soon after Mergui and Tavai came into our possession, committed the usual predatory excesses in their neighbourhood, and carried off many of the people captive, fourteen hundred of whom were recovered by the late mission of Capt. Burney. His proceedings were so far from being avowed by the court of Siam, that he was ordered up to the capital, and thrown into confinement, in which he died.

After crossing the Ch'hoomphon river, the next stage was a village named Bang-soon, and the following, at the head of a small river, named the Pathiu, near the mouth of which is a village of the same appellation, containing about 200 Chinese and Siamese inhabitants, employed chiefly in fishing and manufacturing balachapp. The cause we have above alluded to here suspended the farther prosecution of the journey by land, and the party embarking on board a large boat, arrived in four days in the Menam river, and reached Bankok in the evening of the same day, the 31st of January.*

* From the *Government Gazette of Calcutta*.

ABSTRACT OF EAST-INDIA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1827.*

REVENUES OF BENGAL.

	1823-24.	1824-25.	1825-26. per Estimate.
Mint or Coinage.....C. Rs.	1,14,953	72,920	53,114
Post Office	7,67,505	7,64,843	7,65,600
Stamp Duties	15,94,008	16,32,134	15,87,617
Judicial Fees, Fines, and Licenses.....	6,12,936	6,03,409	5,71,163
Customs in Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa.....	23,28,374	40,49,871	38,86,000
Land and Sayer Revenues in ditto	3,67,33,032	3,76,34,964	3,77,00,000
Revenues from Benares, Ceded and Con- quered Provinces, &c.	5,50,68,327	5,32,13,610	5,45,52,706
Sale of Salt	2,24,68,996	2,13,83,957	2,20,40,000
——— Opium	85,20,416	1,51,68,201	1,39,20,000
Marine Receipts	2,94,537	2,68,016	2,66,800
Total Revenues	C.Rs. 12,95,03,084	13,47,91,925	13,53,43,000
Deduct Charges	9,44,55,385	11,39,44,963	12,53,02,968
Net Revenue.....C.Rs.	3,50,47,699	2,08,46,962	1,00,40,032

REVENUES OF MADRAS.

Mint.....	Pag. 22,371	25,981	27,143
Post Office	73,086	74,063	74,286
Stamps	1,55,850	1,56,601	1,56,814
Judicial Fees, Fines, &c.	41,230	39,103	40,086
Farms and Licenses of ancient Possessions .	2,46,112	2,25,385	2,53,038
Customs of ditto	4,78,418	4,26,547	4,97,875
Land Revenues of ditto	20,79,323	22,92,819	22,25,770
Land Revenues, Customs, &c. from Car- natic, Tanjore, Ceded and Conquered Provinces, &c.	92,46,589	89,69,298	89,94,853
Sale of Salt	4,05,331	3,81,721	3,76,192
Subsidies from Mysore, Travancore and Cochin	9,75,804	9,85,972	9,80,889
Marine Receipts	22,798	24,367	22,691
Total Revenues	Pag. 1,37,46,912	1,36,01,857	1,36,49,637

* For the last accounts, see vol. xxii. p. 1, *et seq.* Some slight occasional differences will be observed between the two accounts, which, we presume, arise from later adjustments.

ABSTRACT OF EAST-INDIA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1827.

CHARGES OF BENGAL.

	1823-24.	1824-25.	1825-26. per Estimate.
Mint	C. Rs. 1,66,634	2,92,474	2,68,484
Post Office.....	8,87,472	8,70,415	8,70,000
Stamp Office	7,32,701	6,40,294	4,61,000
Civil Establishments	81,82,182	92,32,954	98,75,080
Judicial Charges	57,38,471	59,34,280	64,35,680
Collection of Customs in Bengal, Behar, and Orissa	6,55,307	6,71,924	6,39,160
Other Charges on those Revenues	58,37,564	57,27,930	58,84,680
Collection of Revenues in Benares, Con- quered and Ceded Provinces, &c.	1,51,44,694	1,61,75,037	1,57,73,156
Salt.....	70,11,386	78,37,606	66,56,080
Opium	39,27,714	78,15,139	49,30,000
Military: Buildings and Fortifications	4,49,56,921	5,76,18,455	7,19,45,520
Marine	12,14,339	11,28,455	15,61,128
Total Charges.....	C. Rs. 9,44,55,385	11,39,44,963	12,53,02,968*

CHARGES OF MADRAS.

Mint	Pag. 62,713	54,397	55,726
Post Office.....	66,811	68,689	69,428
Stamps	35,291	25,421	25,886
Civil Establishments.....	7,15,333	8,63,960	7,49,888
Judicial Charges	5,90,460	5,94,777	5,87,581
Customs and Revenues in ancient Possessions	6,29,788	5,23,635	5,43,256
Ditto in Carnatic, Tanjore, Ceded and Conquered Provinces, &c.....	25,38,450	25,63,305	26,02,524
Salt.....	1,00,733	98,102	72,068
Military: Buildings and Fortifications	77,60,538	94,55,814	97,13,934
Marine Charges.....	31,424	39,019	38,086
Redemption of Peshcush at Hyderabad	30,03,003	—	—

Total Charges	Pag. 1,55,34,544	1,42,87,122	1,44,58,377
Deduct Revenues.....	1,37,46,912	1,36,01,857	1,36,49,637

Net Charge	Pag. 17,87,632	6,85,265	8,08,740
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* The official account states this sum 12,53,02,600.

ABSTRACT OF EAST-INDIA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1827—continued.**REVENUES OF BOMBAY.**

	1823-24.	1824-25.	1825-26. per Estimate.
Mint	Rs. 44,273	16,957	34,550
Post Office.....	1,00,028	1,37,425	1,36,000
Stamps	1,59,984	1,69,890	1,65,600
Judicial Fees, &c.....	72,746	82,447	76,800
Opium Sales (including Malwa Opium)*...	47,11,749	—	—
Salt Sales	61,423	1,13,918	1,28,000
Farms and Licenses	6,52,152	6,32,019	6,87,800
Customs of ancient Possessions	13,56,339	11,43,282	11,56,300
Land Revenues of ditto	14,67,185	11,19,724	14,86,400
Revenues, Customs, &c. of Ceded Provinces	1,59,62,269	1,23,22,943	1,42,72,050
Marine Receipts	2,07,855	1,29,988	1,36,900
Total Revenues	Rs. 2,47,96,003	1,58,68,593	1,82,80,400

REVENUES OF BENCOOLEN, INCLUDING SINGAPORE.

Opium and Spirit Farms.....	C.Rs. 58,051	68,114	not received
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REVENUES OF PRINCE OF WALES' ISLAND.

Land Revenues and Customs	Doll. 143,824	152,881	155,000
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REVENUES OF ST. HELENA.

Rents, Licenses, Tonnage Duty, &c.....	£3,929	1,816	(actual) 3,015
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GENERAL RESULT OF REVENUE (excluding St. Helena).

Net Revenues	£3,504,770	2,084,696	1,004,040
Deduct Net Charges.....	1,298,660	1,938,115	incomplete
Surplus Revenue.....	£2,206,110	146,581	
Interest on Debts	1,652,449	—	
Net Surplus Revenue in India.....	£553,561		

* The receipts and charges of opium, subsequently to the year 1823-24, are included in the Bengal accounts.

ABSTRACT OF EAST-INDIA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1827—continued.

CHARGES OF BOMBAY.

	1823-24.	1824-25.	1825-26. per Estimate.
Mint	Rs. 27,983	19,863	54,020
Post Office.....	1,16,632	1,52,958	1,57,000
Civil Establishment	29,52,089	36,07,302	36,63,750
Judicial Charges	6,10,027	7,58,198	8,77,400
Customs of ancient Possessions	1,94,004	2,20,055	2,27,700
Revenues of ditto	5,02,731	4,91,574	5,14,759
Customs and Revenues of Ceded Provinces	59,11,666	55,59,248	61,89,798
Opium	22,09,787	—	—
Military: Buildings and Fortifications	1,50,78,877	1,72,34,154	1,99,62,200
Marine	10,90,871	11,06,851	12,17,300
Total Charges.....	Rs. 2,86,94,667	2,91,50,203	3,28,63,927
Deduct Revenues.....	2,47,96,003	1,58,68,593	1,82,80,400
Net Charge	Rs. 38,98,664	1,32,81,610	1,45,83,527

CHARGES OF BENCOOLEN, INCLUDING SINGAPORE.

Total Charges.....	C.Rs. 8,84,672	10,15,281	not received
Deduct Revenues.....	58,051	68,114	do.
Net Charge	C.Rs. 8,26,621	9,47,167	

CHARGES OF PRINCE OF WALES' ISLAND.

Total Charges	Doll. 393,210	453,323	317,279
Deduct Revenues	143,824	152,881	155,000
Net Charge.....	Doll. 249,386	300,442	162,279

CHARGES OF ST. HELENA.

			(actual)
Total Charges	£116,197	111,265	113,428
Deduct Revenues.....	3,929	1,816	3,015
Net Charge	£112,268	109,449	110,413

GENERAL RESULT OF CHARGE (excluding St. Helena).

Net Charge	£1,298,660	1,938,115	incomplete
Interest on Debts.....	£1,460,433		1,674,792
Deduct Surplus Revenue.....	146,581		incomplete
Net Surplus Charge in India	£1,313,852		

ABSTRACT OF EAST-INDIA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1827—continued.

BALANCE OF QUICK STOCK, EXHIBITING A STATE OF THE COMPANY'S AFFAIRS IN
RESPECT TO ASSETS AND DEBTS IN INDIA, AT THE END OF 1824-25.

	£.	£.
<i>Territorial Assets</i> , viz.....Cash	6,382,345	
Bills, Debts, Stores, &c.....	11,919,050	
		18,301,395
<i>Territorial Debts</i> , viz.....Bearing Interest	27,170,050	
Not bearing interest.....	8,559,125	
		35,729,175
Net Excess of Debts Territorial...	£17,427,780	
<i>Commercial Assets</i> , viz. ...Cash	270,142	
Debts and Goods.....	2,402,350	
		2,672,492
<i>Commercial Debts</i> , viz. ...Not bearing Interest		142,325
Net Excess of Assets Commercial.....	£2,530,167	
Net Excess of Debt in India.....	£14,897,613	

STATEMENT OF BOND AND OTHER DEBTS OWING BY THE EAST-INDIA COMPANY IN
INDIA ON THE 30TH APRIL 1825.

	£.
BENGAL <i>Territorial</i> , viz...Bearing Interest	23,620,967
Not bearing Interest	7,259,931
	30,880,898
<i>Commercial</i> .....Not bearing Interest	138,883
Total Debt at Bengal	£31,019,781
MADRAS <i>Territorial</i> , viz...Bearing Interest.....	3,162,657
Not bearing Interest	708,233
Total Debt at Madras.....	£3,870,890
BOMBAY <i>Territorial</i> , viz...Bearing Interest.....	347,583
Not bearing Interest	573,097
	920,680
<i>Commercial</i> .....Not bearing Interest	3,442
Total Debt at Bombay.....	£924,122
PR. OF WALES' ISLAND , <i>Territorial</i> .....Bearing Interest	£38,842
Not bearing Interest	17,865
Total Debt at Pr. of Wales' Island	£56,707
TOTAL —Bearing Interest	27,170,049
Not bearing Interest	8,701,451
Total Debt in India, 30th April 1825.....	£35,871,500

ABSTRACT OF EAST-INDIA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1827—continued.

HOME ACCOUNT.

PROCEEDS OF SALES IN GREAT BRITAIN; COMMERCIAL RECEIPTS, CHARGES, &c. IN GREAT BRITAIN; MADE UP TO THE 1ST MAY 1827.

	£.	s.	d.
<i>Receipts, viz.</i> Political and Territorial	100,743	17	1
Commercial	8,357,242	1	6
Total Receipts	£8,457,985	18	7
<i>Payments, viz.</i> Political and Territorial	3,265,626	11	0
Commercial	5,709,530	12	9
Total Payments	£8,975,157	3	9
Excess of Political Payments	3,164,882	13	11
Excess of Commercial Receipts	2,647,711	8	9
Net Excess of Payments	£517,171	5	2
Balance in favour, 1st May 1826.....	779,195	9	7
Balance in favour (exclusive of Duty on Tea) 1st May 1827	£262,024	4	5

STATEMENT OF BOND AND SIMPLE CONTRACT DEBTS; STATE OF CASH IN THE TREASURY, AND EFFECTS APPERTAINING TO THE COMPANY IN GREAT BRITAIN AND AFLOAT OUTWARD, ON 1ST MAY 1827.

	£.	£.
<i>Debts, viz.</i> ... Political and Territorial	11,354,526	
Commercial	2,300,228	
		13,654,754
Home Bond Debt.....		3,795,892
Total Debt		£17,450,646
<i>Assets, viz.</i> ... Political and Territorial	2,308,108	
Commercial	22,952,384	
		25,260,492
Assets in favour		£7,809,846

AN ACCOUNT OF THE ANNUAL CHARGES DEFRAYED BY THE EAST-INDIA COMPANY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THEIR TRADE AND COMMERCE.

	1823-24.	1824-25.	1825-26. per Estimate.
	£.	£.	£.
At Bengal.....	169,457	188,293	183,270
Madras	14,569	25,580	26,000
Bombay	31,398	36,506	37,739
Bencoolen	5,149	5,950	—
Prince of Wales' Island.....	1,251	448	1,269
Canton	61,122	66,273	61,023
Total	£282,946	323,050	309,301

ABSTRACT OF EAST-INDIA ANNUAL ACCOUNTS, 1827—*continued.*

AN ACCOUNT OF THE AMOUNT RECEIVED FOR THE SALE OF IMPORT GOODS.

	1823-24.	1824-25.	1825-26. per Estimate.
	£.	£.	£.
At Bengal	316,260	187,474	280,064
Madras	50,244	32,691	40,000
Bombay	149,504	149,725	63,563
Bencoolen	17,715	—	—
Prince of Wales' Island	477	1,174	625
Total.....	£534,200	371,064	384,252

AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRIME COST OF CARGOES PURCHASED BY THE EAST-INDIA COMPANY IN INDIA AND SHIPPED FOR EUROPE.

	1823-24.	1824-25.
	£.	£.
At Bengal.....	1,054,283	1,449,982
Madras.....	106,518	120,528
Bombay.....	14,669	53,810
Bencoolen	15,262	13,474
Total.....	£1,190,732	1,637,794

THE PERMANENT SETTLEMENT IN SOUTHERN INDIA.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Mr. Lushington, the governor recently appointed to Madras, having been the collector who introduced the permanent settlement and the Cornwallis system of internal government, into the pollams or zemindarries of the province of Tinnevely, he will be able, on his arrival in India, to ascertain if the favourable account given in the enclosed original letter, written by that highly respectable missionary, the Rev. C. W. Gericke, from Tanjore in 1802, can be continued to this time, or whether it would be an improvement to dispossess all the poligars of their pollams, and introduce therein the ryotwar system of Sir Thomas Munro.

R. R.

I have great happiness in assuring you, that, in this my long journey, I heard no such complaints any where as I used to hear formerly, but on the contrary have frequently heard the inhabitants express themselves much satisfied with their present situation.

The Hindoos in the Mysore country, in comparing their present situation with the former, said, that their condition would be still better if the English had taken them under their immediate protection.*

As to the southernmost countries, I mentioned to the good Colonel at Ramanad the very words in which the inhabitants expressed themselves at comparing the present times to the former; for instance, "when before we could not travel without great fear in the day, we may now pass with great security in the night: since the time that the English have got the better of the Pulligars, there is no thief in the thickest jungle &c." The Colonel said, "it is so," and rejoiced at it, and at the readiness of the people to acknowledge it. We have several times conversed on the present happier state of the country. He thinks, that when the late institutes shall take place, and impartial justice be administered to the people, and the obtaining it be made easy to them, they will then be as happy as Government can make them.

* This opinion has often been expressed since the date of this letter.

VARIETIES.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF PARIS.

The sixth general annual meeting of this Society, at which his Royal Highness the Duke of Orleans presided, took place in April last, when a report was read by M. Abel Rémusat, the secretary, which contained a rapid but brilliant analysis of the works on oriental subjects which have appeared since the last meeting, not only in France but in foreign countries; and it presented a picture of the actual state and progress of eastern literature in Europe. Amongst the works particularly noticed in the report are the following:—the beautiful edition of *Sacnata*, in which M. de Chézy is still employed, and which is accompanied by a French translation of this curious eastern drama, whereby persons ignorant of the Sanscrit may obtain an idea of the Homeric genius of Hindu literature. This edition is undertaken at the expense of the Society: the episode of the *Ramayana*, with the commentaries of the same professor, has been published. The lithographic impression of the text of *Mencius* is completed: the translation which M. Stanislaus Julien has added thereto is, according to M. Abel Rémusat, worthy of the highest commendation. The want of a Jagataï-Tartar, or oriental Turkish dictionary, has induced Messrs. Amédée Jaubert and Klaproth to devote their attention to this important work. A folio edition of the *History of the Tartars* in Oriental-Turkish, by Abul-Ghazi-Khan, was printed, under the auspices and at the expense of the late Count Romanzow, at Cazan. The king's library has also acquired a valuable MS. of this very history of Abul-Ghazi, on which the learned Turkish professor has composed a memoir. A translation of these important historical documents may probably be, at some future period, expected from him. By an order of the king, the Persian editions of Tabari, Ferdusi, &c. are to be published at the expense of government, as well as the principal Hindu and Chinese chronicles: the editors and translators are chosen from amongst the members of this Society. After recapitulating the services which the periodical publication of the journal of the Society has rendered to oriental literature, the secretary paid a just tribute of praise to the labours of foreign scholars, and to the laudable efforts of the Bible Societies considered in a philological view. He concluded his discourse by pointing out the benefit which has been produced, and will be produced, by the spirit of association,—a power which is not new, but which has been newly adapted to the

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always increasing wants of the human mind.

In the absence of M. Champollion, jun. M. Agoub read a sketch of the historical results attending the discovery of the Egyptian phonetic alphabet.

Baron Silvestre de Sacy then read a dissertation on the history of writing amongst the Arabs of the Hedjaz. It appears from this memoir that the characters called *Neskhî*, of which the writing at present employed amongst the Musulmans consists, were known anterior to Ebn-Mokla, to whom the invention has hitherto been attributed. This celebrated vizir lived in the fourth century of the Hegira, and died in 326 (A.D. 937). There exist two papyri written in the *Neskhî* character, bearing the certain date of the year 133. These papyri, which contain passports given to two Egyptians, were sent to France, some years back, by M. Drovetti, the French consul general in Egypt. They furnished a subject for a memoir, read to the Academy of Inscriptions by M. de Sacy, &c., and inserted in the *Journal des Savans* for August 1825, in which the writer began to raise doubts on the epoch of the discovery of the *Neskhî* character. He then thought himself justified in withdrawing the honour of this invention from Abu-Ali-Ebn-Mokla, or his father Abu-Abdallah-Hassan, who died in 338.* M. de Sacy now finds his inductions fully confirmed by two fresh papyri, bearing the date of the first century of the Hegira, that is, the epoch of the invasion of Egypt by the Musulmans. These documents acquire an additional degree of importance and authenticity from the fact that they make mention of personages known in history. It thus appears demonstrable, that the mode of writing adopted by all Mahometan nations at the present day was in full use during the seventh century of the Christian era, since it was employed in acts of the Egyptian government. Count Castiglioni and Mr. Fræhn had been before induced to conjecture this fact from the legends on several Arabic medals. A curious question remains to be solved: did the *Neskhî* characters precede or follow the *Cufic*, or were they simultaneously employed?

The reading of a novel translated from the Chinese by M. Stanislaus Julien concluded the business of the day. This novel was found to be extremely tedious, and some surprise has been expressed that M. Julien should have bestowed his labour upon a subject so unworthy of it.

AGRICUL-

* See *Asiat. Journ.* vol. xx. p. 312.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of this Society took place, Jan. 1, at the house of their president, Mr. Leycester, for the purpose of examining the vegetables exhibited by the native gardeners, who were candidates for the medals and premiums given by the Society, for the best specimens of potatoes, peas, cabbages, and cauliflowers.

Although nearly two hundred individuals had applied for, and received seeds and plants from the Society in September and October last, still very few candidates appeared, and a fair criterion was not obtained of the produce for the bazar.

The Venerable the Archdeacon Corrie and W. Paxton, Esq. were unanimously elected members of the Society.

The secretary read to the meeting a letter which he had lately received from Government, conveying its approbation of the objects of the Society, and expressing its readiness to afford the Society the use of a piece of ground, rent-free, for an experimental garden and farm, if such a spot should now be available, and not inconsistent with the general interests of Government; upon which points the Society was requested to communicate with the Board of Revenue and Collector of Calcutta.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Jan. 4.*]

This Society held a second meeting on the 24th January, at the house of their president, W. Leycester, Esq., for the purpose of awarding prizes to the native gardeners for the best specimens of vegetable produce. On this occasion, considerable pains had been taken to make the meeting known, by announcing it in the Bengal papers, and distributing Bengali hand-bills in the vicinity of those places where the *Makes* mostly reside. These measures were successful, and although the advanced period of the year was rather adverse to a numerous assemblage, above fifty baskets of vegetables were submitted to the Society, containing samples of cauliflowers, cabbages, peas, potatoes, and other articles, that would have done credit to a vegetable market even in England. Some of the cabbages and cauliflowers were of very unusual dimensions, particularly the former, one of which measured two feet four inches outward diameter, and weighed ten seer, or twenty pounds. Several of the cauliflowers weighed six and eight pounds. The baskets furnished also creditable specimens of endive, celery, beet, knole cole, red cabbage, and turnips, some of the latter weighing a seer and a half.

Amongst the specimens produced we think it not impossible that some may have found their way from other than professional gardens; but this could not have been very extensively the case, as the Ma-

lees came from various and widely separated directions, from Kidderpore, by Allipore, and Intally to Chitpore. The greater number were from the direction of Kidderpore, where, it is understood, the gardens are something later than in Intally. The distribution of good seeds also, which was partly effected last year, and which will probably be practicable this year to a still greater extent, has, no doubt, contributed most materially to the improved produce of native gardenings.—[*Ibid.*, Jan. 25.]

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The weekly lectures at this Society during the past month have been eminently attractive. On Wednesday, the 30th ult., Mr. Vigors, in an interesting and eloquent lecture, illustrated the affinities of the birds that live by suction on vegetable juices. This lecture was honoured by the presence of a number of ladies distinguished for rank and elegance.—On the 13th inst. Mr. Brookes concluded his scientific discourses on comparative anatomy by demonstrating the thoracic and abdominal viscera of the ostrich. Various interesting and important facts were illustrated in this lecture, which Mr. B. concluded by expressing his readiness to continue his observations, whenever an opportunity shall offer for promoting the success of the Society. Mr. Vigors delivered the final lecture for the present season on the 20th inst. by continuing his remarks on the affinities of birds. Among the company assembled on the occasion we may mention the Prince of Musignano (Chas. Lucien Bonaparte). Mr. Vigors, after addressing the meeting on the prospects of the Society, and the increased success attending upon its plans, proceeded to point out the characteristics that distinguish the five orders of birds as described in a diagram exhibited for that purpose, *viz.* the perching birds, that take their food on trees; the gallinaceous birds, that feed upon the ground; the wading birds, existing partially on land and partially on water; the oceanic birds, those exclusively of the water; and the birds of prey, that support themselves alike on trees and in the air. Of these, the gallinaceous birds formed the subject selected on this occasion for particular illustration: and Mr. Vigors clearly and successfully traced the leading affinities and analogies that connect the groups of this order. A variety of interesting and beautiful specimens were also exhibited illustrative of the peculiar structure and character of the gallinaceous birds.

NEW DISCOVERIES.

To the Editor of the *Asiatic Journal*.

Sir:—Herewith I send an account of some

some new discoveries, and if you can conveniently insert it in the next number of the *Asiatic Journal*, such persons as are interested in the navigation of the eastern seas will thereby have an early opportunity of knowing of the existence of these dangers.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
JAS. HORSBURGH.

Chart Office, East-India House,
June 1, 1827.

Vegas Shoal,* situated to the northward of the Straits of Gaspar, has been discovered in September 1826, by Capt. Jose Antonio de Vega, of the Spanish frigate *Bellos*, which ship struck and grounded on it, when outward-bound to Manilla, and by carrying out an anchor she was hove off the shoal. Its extent is little more than a ship's length, with depths on it from twenty-two to eighteen feet water, and near to it soundings of nine, eleven, seventeen, and twenty-two fathoms. This dangerous, and hitherto unknown shoal, Capt. de Vega made in lat. $1^{\circ} 10' S.$ lon. $106^{\circ} 34' E.$ by chronometer, measured from Gaspar Island, which he passed on the preceding day, and the shoal bears N. $20^{\circ} W.$ from that island, distant about twenty-seven leagues, being much in the way of ships coming from the northward in cloudy unfavourable weather, when running for the straits of Gaspar.

The following islands and dangers in the Pacific Ocean have lately been seen and partly explored by Capt. Renneck, of the *Lyra*, southern whaler, belonging to Messrs. Enderby.

Reads Islands, situated to the eastward of New Ireland, extending nearly N.W. and S.E. about nine leagues, were seen February 16, 1826, and they consist of an irregular chain of low isles and sand-banks, environed by a reef, the northern extremity of which is in lat. $3^{\circ} 9' S.$ lon. $154^{\circ} 22' E.$ The southern part of the chain is separated from that to the northward by a gap or apparent passage, and this southern part, called Goodman's Island, is in lat. $3^{\circ} 27' S.$ lon. $154^{\circ} 45' E.$; but to the southward of this southern extremity of the chain there is a detached sand-bank and reef in lat. $3^{\circ} 33' S.$ lon. $154^{\circ} 37' E.$ by chronometer. These islands abound with cocoa-nuts, and some of them are inhabited, as upon the beach of one of the islands about a hundred natives were observed waving green boughs.

Circular Reef, explored Nov. 7, 1825, situated in lat. $3^{\circ} 18' S.$ lon. $147^{\circ} 40' E.$, is about three or four miles in diameter, having deep water inside, with an opening about a quarter of a mile at the N.N.W. part, and the reef on the outside is steep to.

Lyra's Shoal, discovered February 18, 1826, appeared to be a narrow spit, ex-

tending N.E. and S.W. from about lat. $1^{\circ} 48' S.$ to $1^{\circ} 59' S.$, and in lon. $153^{\circ} 28' E.$ by chronometer, the middle part where the *Lyra* passed over, and coral rocks were seen under the ship, over which the depth was probably not more than four or five fathoms, but before the lead could be hove she got into deep water, clear of the shoal.

Enderby's Islands, two in number, situated in lat. $7^{\circ} 18' N.$ lon. $149^{\circ} 2' E.$, were approached close on February 27, 1826, and the inhabitants came off in canoes with cocoa-nuts and some flying-fish. When these islands were nearly in a transit line bearing E.S.E., distant from the nearest about six miles, saw coral rocks under the bottom, and had several casts of seven, eight, ten, and twelve fathoms water upon this coral bank.

Two islands, situated in lat. $6^{\circ} 34' N.$ lon. $142^{\circ} 44' E.$ were thought by Captain Renneck to be a new discovery, but they are placed in Admiral Krusenstern's Atlas of the South Pacific Ocean, under the name of Kama.

Thompson's Island, discovered December 13, 1825, by the smack *Sprightly*, Capt. Geo. Norris, with the *Lively* in company,* was found to be rather low, and it appeared of small extent, the sea breaking upon it with great violence. Three rocks, named the Chimnies, lie four or five miles to the south-eastward of Thompson's Island, and another small rock about three miles to the southward of the Chimnies. Captain Norris describes Thompson's Island to be in lat. $53^{\circ} 56' S.$ lon. $5^{\circ} 30' E.$, and bearing from Bouvet's Island N.N.E. distant about fifteen leagues; but he states the latter island to be in lat. $54^{\circ} 15' S.$ lon. $5^{\circ} E.$, which, if correct, would make the distance considerably less between these islands—not above eight leagues.

Bouvet's Island, as stated in vol. i. of this work, was seen in 1808 by Capt. Lindsay, of the *Swan*, but there is reason to believe that no human being has ever been able to land upon this almost inaccessible island until December 16, 1825, when a whale-boat from the *Sprightly* landed, and took formal possession of it in the name of King George the Fourth, and named it Liverpool Island; but the name of its first discoverer, Bouvet, ought not to be transferred.

The *Sprightly* fell in with this island, December 10, and from this date till January

* Both vessels belonging to Messrs. Enderby, who liberally afforded me access to the log-book, and to whom their country's gratitude is due, for their enterprising spirit, in ordering the commanders of their vessels to search for new islands, in high southern latitudes, with a view to attain to a more perfect knowledge of that part of the ocean, as well as to discover new situations for fishing.

* Communicated by Capt. Blair, of the Company's ship *William Fairlie*.

bruary 24, 1826, this vessel, and the *Lively*, her consort, remained in its neighbourhood, having a boat's-crew on the island great part of this time, endeavouring to obtain the fur seal skins; but very few were procured, the only place where they could land being at the S.W. end of the island, called Seal Point by Capt. Norris. This island appeared to extend north and south about three or four leagues, the north end high and rugged, the south end low, the middle high, covered with snow, and may be seen twelve or fourteen leagues in clear weather. It was observed to be of volcanic origin, the surface like a cinder, containing large veins of transparent black lava, some of them interlaid with white streaks. Except at the south-western end, the island presents a steep inaccessible rocky coast, but soundings of thirty-five to twenty fathoms black sandy bottom were got on the south side of it, about a mile off shore.

A small rock lies off the S.E. end of the island, and a high pyramidal rock bears N.W. by W., about six miles from its N.W. end, which was at first mistaken for an iceberg, it being cased with ice. Many other rocks around the island were also observed to be cased with ice, and had been mistaken for icebergs. The N.W. of the island is the most dangerous part, it being fronted here by many perpendicular rocks and small ice.

Bearings of the island and its estimated distances at noon, on ten different days when the latitude was observed, are inserted in the *Sprightly's* log-book; these noon observations, the least and the greatest, giving fifteen miles difference in the latitude of the island, but the mean result of the ten days' observations places the body of the island Bouvet in lat. $54^{\circ} 21\frac{1}{4}'$ S.; and the mean of five days' observations for the chronometer this vessel had on board, will place it in lon. $5^{\circ} 24'$ E., the extent of difference of the longitude given by chronometer for the island during these five days being sixty miles. The mean of Capt. Lindsay's observations (stated in vol. i.) and those of Capt. Norris, would place Bouvet's Island in lat. $54^{\circ} 15\frac{1}{2}'$ S. lon. $5^{\circ} 37'$ E., which differs not much from the mean approximation given above.

If Thompson's Island bears N.N.E. fifteen leagues from Bouvet's Island, as stated by the navigator last named, then, by the approximated geographical situation of Bouvet's Island, the former would be in about lat. $53^{\circ} 40'$ S. lon. $5^{\circ} 33'$ E. But if it is only eight leagues from Bouvet's Island, in this case, Thompson's Island would be situated in about lat. $53^{\circ} 58'$ S. lon. $5^{\circ} 28'$ E.

In December and January, the *Sprightly* and *Lively* experienced very stormy weather in the neighbourhood of these islands,

although the wind was moderate at times, with a glimpse of clear sky, yet the fogs and strong gales came on so suddenly as to prevent a boat from being sent from the vessels with safety, and Bouvet's Island was usually enveloped in fog clouds. Almost constant hard gales prevailed from the westward, with a high sea, and the current sitting to the eastward, by which the vessels were often driven from the island; and their danger was increased by numerous icebergs and loose pieces of ice, with which they were almost daily embarrassed.

These vessels went afterward in a south-westerly direction, as far as lat. 60° S., without discovering any other land, and could not penetrate farther to the south on account of a solid field of ice.

HINDOO DWARF.

Through the kindness of a friend we were this afternoon (Nov. 30) gratified with the sight of an extraordinary dwarf. His name is Dhunna Ram. He was born at Begoo Scrai, district of Monghyr; is of the Baheliya caste, and forty-two years old. His stature, from the sole of the foot to the crown of the head, is three feet one inch and a half high. He is well proportioned throughout, and is intelligent and pleasing in his manner. Though so diminutive himself, his mother and father were of full growth, and he has four brothers and sisters full grown. Indeed he was accompanied by one of his brothers, who is a tall able-bodied man. Dwarfs usually have some deformity about them; but the little man in question is perfectly well formed, with the exception perhaps of the elbow-joint being higher situated than we generally meet with. The expression of his face is pleasing, lively, and somewhat quaint. His voice is clear and strong, but partakes somewhat of a boyish shrillness, as if he had never attained the *vox rauca*, which is observable at puberty. He has lost one of his eyes by the small-pox. His appetite and health are good; and he is light and active. We took several measurements of him as following:—Height from the sole of the foot to the crest of the hip; one foot eight inches and a half; length of the arm, from the acromion (point of the shoulder) to the tip of the middle finger, one foot three inches; length of the forearm, nine inches and a half; breadth of the body, from acromion to acromion, seven inches and three-quarters; circumference of the neck, eight inches and three-quarters; circumference of the abdomen, one foot seven inches; circumference of the head at the calvaria (round the brows, &c.) one foot five inches and a half; circumference of the head under the ears, one foot and a quarter of an inch; length

length from the coronal suture (top of the head) to the chin, seven inches and a half; circumference of the top of the thigh, eleven inches; of the thickest part of the arm, five inches and three-quarters, and of the calf of the leg, seven inches. — [*India Gazette*.]

EARLY INOCULATION IN INDIA.

Translation of a paper in the language of Orissa, called Odiah, describing the manner in which the inhabitants of the villages of the Chicacole district are inoculated by the Odiah Brahmins of the Kimdy and Teckaly countries (north of Vizagapatam and south of Ganjam).

"A certain quantity of cotton to be wetted with the matter of a favourable small-pox, and from 200 to 400 people assembled on Sunday and Thursday; a cut to be given upon their arms with an instrument; the above cotton, together with a quantity of rice, to be put in water. After the rice is properly wet and softened thereby, about six or seven grains, well mixed with jagry, to be given to each person, and the wound on his arm covered by a small quantity of the above cotton; after which they are to be washed, either in a tank, well, or river, and immediately afterwards *turvani*, or some water and rice, with butter-milk, to be given them for their food. After they are thus washed four or five different times every day, for three days, they get fever thereby,* and the small-pox begins to appear; they are then to eat passaloo, grain, rice, and butter-milk whenever they wish for it. After the small-pox becomes ripe and broken, they are to live upon the following diet, viz. rice and curries of different grains, such as *beerkoj* and *pullacoy*: about four days after which oil and turmeric mixed together are to be rubbed over their bodies, and they are to be washed. *MS. penès Ed.*

It is believed that this paper was transmitted to Madras by the then collector of Chicacole (Mr. Andrew Scott), long before vaccination was introduced into India.

CHINESE LEGISLATION.

A great defect in Chinese legislation is the facility which it affords to compound for corporal punishment by money; for instance, a person condemned to receive from 60 to 100 blows, pays from four to seven ounces of silver, and from nine to fifteen chetwerts of wheat; one year's hard labour and sixty blows may be bought off for about fourteen ounces of silver, and about thirty chetwerts of corn. Very old persons, minors, and cripples, pay

about the value of sixpence for ten blows. The wife of a person in office may be excused from ten blows, for about ten pence, &c. Whoever kills a man by accident is exempt from punishment if he pays a pound of silver. People ninety years of age, or children under seven, do not undergo corporal punishment except in cases of treason and conspiracy. A condemned person may pay another to suffer punishment in his stead: this extends even to the penalty of death! — *Timkowski's Travels in China*.

DOUBLE CIRCULATION IN PLANTS.

At a meeting of the Philomathic Society of Paris, 26th May, M. de Blainville communicated some curious observations which he had made at M. Amici's, on the manner in which circulation was performed in the plant called charagne (the *chara*). This plant, when examined by the help of a microscope which magnified objects 1,500 times, presented the phenomenon, hitherto unobserved, of a movement of two fluids, one ascending the other descending, circulating in the same tube, without being separated by any partition which could isolate them. The reality of this singular phenomenon was placed beyond doubt by the very evident passage of certain particles of one of the currents which, drawn by that which moved in an opposite direction, were from time to time carried along by it. The tube in which this double circulation takes place is of a very sensible diameter.

ORIGINAL COWLE FOR BUILDING CHINDATREPETTAH.

Fort St. George, November 1, 1734.

A cowle granted by the Honourable George Morton Pitt, Esq., President and Governor of Fort St. George, and Council, for the erecting and building a town to be called Chindatrepettah.

The President and Council shall appoint proper persons to mark out the streets and the extent of the said town, whose consent shall be necessary before any house is built, and who shall allot a proper portion of ground for every inhabitant.

The first builders shall be deemed proprietors, with right of inheritance; but if any house shall come to ruin and fall down, if the proprietors will not rebuild it within six months after notice given them for that purpose, the ground shall be assigned to such other person as will build thereon.*

None shall inhabit the said town but weavers

* It is not to be inferred that the fever comes on in three days.

* This article seems to have been adopted for the practice in use in settling lands for cultivation.

weavers, spinners, and such others as are useful in the weaving trade, except painters, washers, dyers, and *boutique* (shop) merchants, and except also Bramines, dancing women, and such as usually attend the service of the pagodas; but the president and council may at any time thereafter, if they see cause, restrain the number of painters, washers, dyers, and *boutique* merchants.

There shall be no distinction of streets, but every caste may build in any of the streets.

The heads of the several castes shall be chosen and have power according to *sallabad* (custom); but the right of the Company shall be preserved entire notwithstanding.

Such disputes as shall arise among the inhabitants, touching any matter of debt or account, shall be decided by the head of the castes, or by other arbitrators chosen by the parties between whom such disputes shall happen; and in like manner shall be decided all claims and demands which may be made upon the inhabitants by those of Madras, or any other town or village; but if the inhabitants of Chindatrepettah shall have any claims or demands upon those of Madras or any other place, such claims and demands must be sued for in the English court,* or otherwise according to the rights and customs of such place, except the parties can mutually agree to submit their differences to arbitration.

The said inhabitants of Chindatrepettah shall not be assessed for any quit-rent, nor be subject to the impost† upon betel and tobacco, and all manner of provision and wood or other fuel for firing may be brought into the said town free; and generally, neither the above nor any other duties shall be levied on the said inhabitants without the consent and approbation of the Court of Directors of the Hon. East-India Company first had and obtained, except as hereafter excepted.

The goods manufactured by the inhabitants of the said town shall pay the like duties at the choultry as are paid on the same species coming from any place in the country, except such goods as are bought and provided for by the Company, which shall not be subject to any other duties than are usually paid by the Company's merchants.

Nothing in this cowl shall prejudice

* The Mayor's Court was the only court of justice at Madras at this time: natives were not amenable to it except by consent.

† This exemption is no longer continued to the inhabitants of this town.

the rights of Jangamiah Naick, hereditary poligar of Treplicane, Olambore, Erumboor or Egmore, &c. He shall have watch and ward of the said Chindatrepettah,* as in other places, according to *sallabad*; and he shall make good all thefts and robberies committed thereon; and the inhabitants thereof shall pay him every four months, for the brick houses, three fanams; for those of a middle size, two fanams; and for the smallest, one fanam.

Nothing else in this cowl shall prejudice the Company's right to a choultry, and eighteen houses already built where Chindatrepettah is designed to be erected, and now inhabited by Bramines, or to any other houses or buildings that have been erected there before the date of these presents.

The President and Council shall use their instances with the Hon. the English Company, that the privileges and immunities hereby granted may be perpetual, that the said Chindatrepettah may continue as long as the sun and moon endure.

(Signed) G. M. Pitt, Richard Benyon, Randall Fawke, Roack or Rock, Aug. Burton, Nic. Morse, W. Monson.

(Signed) George Torriano, Reg.

MANNERS OF THE BLACKS OF AUSTRALIA.

Infanticide is too common amongst the black women; they will not be troubled with the rearing of children, and mostly take them up by the heels and knock out their brains against a stone. We were amused after dinner by the throwing of the bomaring or crooked stick. There seems a sort of magic in it, by the certainty of their making it come back to where they stand, however forcibly they may throw it from them. But what surprised us most was a black fellow going up a tall tree to the height of sixty feet by means of his feet and hands and a tomahawk. The tree must have been twelve feet girth, and therefore the performance resembled more the going up a dead wall than any notions which we are accustomed to of climbing trees. I never saw any thing so clever. Nothing but hunger could have taught it. It was done by one of the Bush blacks, who are much cleverer, honester, and thinner than the Coast blacks, who live on fish. Catching the kangaroo, grubs, snakes, guanas, wild-honey, fern roots, and bunion, seem the employment of the first; while oysters and snappers are the things needful for the last.—[*Australian*.

* The watch and ward were not therefore in the head inhabitants, or potalls.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

June 16, 1827.—A general meeting of the Society was held this day, at 2 o'clock P.M.; Sir Alexander Johnston, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

A considerable number of donations were presented, as follows :

From J. Frost, Esq., his account of the science of Botany; W. Marsden, Esq., the catalogue of his library; Gen. Hardwicke, Ward's Account of the Hindus, and Hayter on the Herculean MSS.; Col. Tod, Gazzera's *Descrizione dei Monumenti Egizi*, &c.; Conte Balbo; l'Abbate Amedée Peyron, and M. Théologue; Dr. Morrison, an original Chinese Map; M. Klaproth, his second letter on Hieroglyphics; Mr. Upham, *Rameses*; Sir A. Johnston, a Pali MS.; J. Hodgson, Esq., a collection of statistical MSS. and several printed books; Major Gen. Sir J. Malcolm, G.C.B., a collection of Persian MSS., comprizing 41 works; Sir Robert Colquhoun, a small collection of natural history from Kumaon, a Nepaulese sword and knife, &c.

Thanks were returned to the several donors.

James Edward Alexander, Esq.; William Jerdan, Esq.; and Capt. Frederick Marryat, R.N., C.B., were elected resident members of the Society.

Dr. Julius Mohl was elected a foreign member.

J. S. Crompton, Esq. and John Matson, Esq. were admitted members.

The reading of Dr. Ainslie's paper "on small-pox" was concluded, and thanks were returned to him for its communication.

A paper was then read, giving an account of the agricultural and revenue economy of the village of Puduvoyal, in the Carnatic, by J. Hodgson, Esq.

Mr. Hodgson, in the introductory part of this paper, states that his object in communicating these notices is to exhibit the internal revenue economy of a village in the Carnatic, which has never been under the immediate superintendence of the Company's European revenue officers, but since the year 1784 has been exclusively possessed by a native servant of the late Sir Eyre Coote, to whom it was then granted, at Sir Eyre's request. These accounts were taken in the village in the year 1817; they may therefore be considered to exhibit a fair specimen of ancient usages in that part of India, and will accurately shew the proportion of produce of the soil usually taken by the sovereign as land revenue, and the respective rights of the parties paying revenue, and of the person entitled by grant from the sovereign to collect it.

This paper contains not much that is new upon the rights of the peasantry in the south-eastern part of the peninsula of India: but a great deal of interesting information on the subject of landed tenures in Southern India is contained in the papers presented at this meeting by Mr. H. to the Society, and in Sir T. Strange's notes upon a case tried at Madras in 1808.

The village in question is situated about thirty miles N.W. of Madras, in the Company's jagheer. The terms of the grant to Sir Eyre Coote's servant are enumerated; they state that the grantee is to pay a reserved sum, out of the revenue he was entitled to collect, amounting to 300 pagodas, or about £120; and the difference between this sum and the amount of revenue which he might collect, he retains for his own benefit. The terms of the grant, however, do not specify either the gross amount of revenue which the grantee was to receive, or the rate at which he was to collect it; both these particulars being left to be settled by custom, or, in case of dispute, by such authorities as the sovereign had appointed for the purpose.

There

There are two kinds of land in this village, one termed "wet land," as being capable of irrigation by means of the water collected in the village tank; and the other, "dry grain land," being rendered productive by rain. The land is divided as follows:

	Cānies.*
Wet land.....	211
Dry grain land.....	157

Total arable land ... 368

The total land in the village register amounts to 548 cānies; there being 38 cānies of land alienated by custom or by grant, and 142 cānies of entirely unproductive land, the particulars of all which are detailed. The village occupants, however, retain possession of, and cultivate, the whole of the alienated land; the grantees of this land receiving no more than the sovereign's share of the produce: indeed, in order to keep on good terms with the cultivators, the grantees generally take less than the sovereign would take, that is, less than one-half the produce. It is thus evidently advantageous to cultivate what is termed "alienated land."

There is a fluctuation in the amount of revenue, according to the season, but no alteration in the rates of division between the cultivator and sovereign. If the amount of the produce of the land in this village be assumed as 100, it will be divided in the following proportion:

Previously to the setting out of the produce the various village servants, &c. receive in fees	10
The cultivators retain	38½
The grantee receives as revenue	51½
	100

The grantee pays all charges of collection, and of keeping the tank in repair; and when the cultivators are impoverished by bad seasons, loss of cattle, &c., he is obliged by custom to assist them by advances of money, to be repaid out of the next crop.

Although the cultivators relinquish so large a proportion of produce as revenue to the sovereign, yet they possess advantages which, though not capable of being accurately estimated, are of considerable value to them. These advantages are, to a certain extent, specified in this paper.

The land privileges of the original settlers are held in four principal shares, each of these being subdivided into sixteen parts, making in all sixty-four shares; and by the custom of the village, a principal share cannot be sold, because it contains the property of many, but it may be subdivided under certain limitations.

The land here is cultivated by ploughs drawn by oxen, one pair to each plough; part is ploughed in a dry state, and part worked into a puddle of mud. Part is sown broad-cast, and part transplanted with rice plants previously raised in beds, and planted in the prepared slush by the women of the families of the labourers and slaves. One plough is considered sufficient to cultivate from four to five cānies of land† during one season. The price of ploughing cattle varies of course: a pair of strong bullocks, for heavy wet-land work, cost about £5. 12s. Buffaloes would be much cheaper, but they are only used by the poorest cultivators, as they do not work well in the heat of the sun.

In

* A cāni is 57,600 square feet.

† Three acres are equal to two cānies.

In an account given to Mr. H., the average annual expense of ten ploughs and their drivers is calculated at £4. 3s. per plough. The common plough is of so slight a construction, that one man can easily carry two or three on his shoulders to the fields.

When field labour is paid in money, which is not often the case, the rate is about eight, or at the most, ten shillings a month for an able-bodied man.

The manner of allotting the various portions of land in this village is peculiar to villages where wet or rice cultivation prevails. The names of the different lots and shareholders are written on pieces of palm-leaf, and the names of each division of land to be lotted are placed in a row. A child, selected for the purpose, draws a leaf with the name of a principal shareholder, and places it under a number; this shareholder, with his under-shareholders, thus becomes entitled to cultivate the share of land lotted under that number. When the principal shares are disposed of, the holders of these shares proceed in like manner to divide them amongst the under-cultivators, till all the sixty-four shares are disposed of.

There are three kinds of labourers in this village, *viz.* 1, slaves of two different castes; 2, bondsmen, who may redeem themselves; and 3, hired labourers. There is not much difference in the treatment of these labourers, except that the free-men receive a larger portion of their wages in money, and find themselves in clothes. Mr. H. observes that, so far as his observation extends, the cultivators in India are kind and considerate masters.

Having thus exhibited the interests of the village cultivators, Mr. H. refers to the interests of the grantee; and in an appendix to the paper, exhibits a statement of the extent of cultivation, gross produce, government share, reserved rent, and net profits of this village, for a period of thirty years.

This statement shews the great fluctuation in the net amount of profit received by the grantee. The largest amount exhibited is in the 21st year of possession by the grantee, being 654 star pagodas. The next year but one exhibits a very different result; being a loss of 140 star pagodas, owing to an almost entire failure of cultivation, from the effects of drought. As the cultivators pay the revenue in kind, and in proportion to the net produce, their real loss was only that of labour and seed.

Mr. Hodgson enters into further details, and in conclusion expresses his willingness to give every information in his power to any person who may feel an interest in the subject of his paper.

The thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr. Hodgson.

This being the last general meeting for the season, it was announced that the Society would meet again on Saturday the 3d of November, at the usual hour.

It was further announced that the Rev. Mr. Wolff would deliver a lecture to the members of the Society, on matters of interest connected with those eastern countries which he has visited, on Saturday the 23d.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

SLAVES AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

(Printed by Order of the House of Commons, 1st March 1827.)

Number of Manumissions effected by purchase, bequest, or otherwise, between 1st January 1821 and 31st December 1825, viz.—Males 100; females 127; total, 227.

Statement of the Expenses attending Manumission.—1. The memorial to government, which is usually written on a stamp of four shillings and nine-pence.—The permission of Government was formerly granted on a stamp of one rix dollar (1s. 6d.); but for some time past no stamp has been used for this permission.

2.—The payment of fifty rix dollars to the funds of the reformed church, in addition to which two persons must bind themselves that the slave so manumitted shall not become burthensome to the church within the period of twenty years; if the slave, however, has been baptized, the payment is not made to the church funds, nor is security demanded; and latterly also, in the case of heathens, the Governor has been pleased to dispense with the payment to the Church, upon security being given that the emancipated slave shall not become a burthen to the church funds during his or her life-time.

Number of Marriages legally solemnized between slaves during the same period, viz.—14.

Number of Slaves taken and sold in execution for debt, by the Sequestrator's department, between 1st January 1821 and 31st July 1826, viz. Males, 528; females, 344; total, 872.—*Note.* Husband and wife, mother and child, appear from the return to have been sold to the same purchaser, except in seven instances, where the child and the mother were sold in separate lots.

RETURN of the Free Black and Slave Population from 1st January 1821 to ult. December 1824.*

Years.	FREE BLACKS.		HOTTENTOTS.		NEGRO APPRENTICES.		SLAVES.		TOTAL.		General Total.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
1821	899	972	14,395	14,628	1,045	526	19,327	13,075	35,666	29,201	64,867
1822	913	983	14,487	14,314	1,029	532	19,222	13,310	35,651	29,139	64,790
1823	891	1,098	15,336	15,213	1,118	652	19,786	13,412	37,131	30,375	67,506
1824	1,411	1,481	15,487	15,662	912	534	18,418	13,326	36,228	31,003	67,231

RETURN of the Number of Births and Deaths that have taken place among the Free Black and Slave Population, from 1st December 1821 to ult. December 1824.

Years.	FREE BLACKS.				SLAVES.				Total.	
	Births.		Deaths.		Births.		Deaths.			
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Births.	Deaths.
1821	427	401	181	107	388	406	335	134	1,621	757
1822	516	456	265	165	369	361	445	144	1,702	1,019
1823	327	328	173	147	573	580	436	237	1,808	993
1824	546	463	433	341	482	544	397	288	2,035	1,459

* The return for preceding years may be seen in *Asiat. Journ.* Vol. XXII. p. 64.

MAURITIUS SUGAR.

(Printed by Order of the House of Commons, May 1, 1827.)

Statement of Colonial Sugars exported during the years 1812-25; as extracted from the Books and Documents of the Custom-House of Port Louis; but the Records for 1811 not being forthcoming, and those for 1812-13-14, being incomplete, the quantities stated as exported during those years may possibly not be strictly accurate.

	<i>Lbs.</i>		<i>Lbs.</i>
1812	969,264	1819	5,678,888
1813	549,465	1820	15,524,755
1814	1,034,291	1821	20,410,053
1815	2,504,957	1822	23,403,644
1816	8,296,352	1823	27,400,887
1817	6,583,457	1824	24,334,553
1818	7,908,380	1825	21,739,746

(Signed) P. SALTER, Acting Collector of Customs.

Custom-House, Port Louis, 13th Dec. 1826.

(Ordered to be printed 15th May 1827.)

An Account of the quantity of Sugar imported into Great Britain and Ireland, from the Mauritius in 1825 and 1826.

Year 1825	93,723 Cwts.
1826	186,245

Note.—No account can be rendered of the imports of Mauritius Sugar prior to the year 1825, in which year the Act was passed, placing the article on the same footing, with regard to duty, as the Sugar of the British plantations. Previously to that period, it was chargeable with the same duty as Sugar of the produce of the East-Indies, and both were indiscriminately entered at the Custom-House under one denomination.

COTTON EXPORTED FROM THE SEYCHELLES.

Statement of Cotton received from Seychelles during the years 1812-25, as extracted from the Books of the Custom-House of Port Louis; but the Records for 1811 not being forthcoming, and those for 1812-13-14 being incomplete, the quantities stated as received during those years may possibly not be strictly accurate.

	<i>Bales.</i>		<i>Bales.</i>
1812	633	1819	1,115
1813	525	1820	968
1814	842	1821	1,056
1815	1,304	1822	1,418½
1816	1,343	1823	1,188
1817	1,500½	1824	903½
1818	1,509	1825	784

(Signed) P. SALTER, Acting Collector of Customs.

Custom-House, Port Louis, 13th Dec. 1826.

SILK.

(Ordered to be printed 2d May 1827.)

An Account of the quantity of Raw and Waste Silk imported into this country, in the years ending 5th January 1826 and 1827.

	France.	Italy.	Turkey.	East-Indies and China.	From all parts.
Year 1825...lbs.	885,334	724,464	341,107	1,029,346	3,113,446
1826...lbs.	266,662	153,427	240,840	1,803,039	2,487,009

An Account of the quantity of Thrown Silk imported into this country during the same period.

Year 1825...lbs.	168,241	600,366	—	—	769,603
1826...lbs.	164,152	9,825	—	—	174,667

MANUFACTURED SILKS.

An Account of the quantity of Silks, manufactured and other than manufactured, exported from this country in the years ending 5th Jan. 1825, 1826, and 1827.

	Other than Manufactured. lbs.	Manufactures of Silk only, and mixed with other Materials. £.
Year 1824	3,700	159,647
1825	153,605	150,815
1826	279,512	106,648

An Account of the Number of Pieces of Bandannoes imported into this country from the East-Indies and China, and exported to foreign parts, from 5th January 1814 to 5th January 1827.

	Imported.			Exported from Great Britain to Foreign Parts.
	On Account of the East-India Company.	Private Trade.	Total.	
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.	
Year ended 5th January 1815 ...	38,084	33,448	71,532	61,564
— 1816 ...	14,316	91,846	106,162	91,539
— 1817 ...	32,575	83,326	115,901	115,691
— 1818 ...	29,382	56,614	85,996	90,359
— 1819 ...	32,740	45,463	78,203	110,891
— 1820 ...	22,217	20,151	42,368	72,150
— 1821 ...	35,665	32,846	68,511	76,963
— 1822 ...	48,431	39,375	87,806	73,122
— 1823 ...	40,775	65,759	106,534	94,663
— 1824 ...	35,489	109,524	145,013	127,430
— 1825 ...	45,419	75,867	121,286	122,807
— 1826 ...	62,252	84,277	146,529	69,363
— 1827 ...	39,996	186,715	226,711	44,521

An Account of the Number of Pieces of Bandannoes in the East-India Company's Warehouse on 5th January 1827.

	East-India Company's.	Private Traders.	Total.
	Pieces.	Pieces.	Pieces.
Quantity sold	31,449	87,468	118,917
Do. unsold	25,983	19,887	45,870
Total	57,432	107,355	164,787

EAST-INDIA COLLEGE AT HAILEYBURY.

GENERAL EXAMINATION, May 1827.

ON Thursday, the 31st May, a Deputation of the Court of Directors proceeded to the East-India College at Haileybury, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the College Council of the result of the General Examination of the Students.

The Deputation, upon their arrival at the College, proceeded to the Principal's Lodge, where they were received by him and the Professors, and the Oriental Visitor.

Soon afterwards they proceeded to the Hall, accompanied by the Bishop of Calcutta, the Earl of Hardwicke, and several other distinguished visitors, where, the students being previously assembled, the following proceedings took place :—

A list of the Students who had gained prizes and other honourable distinctions was read.

Mr. John Thornton read an English essay, on “ *The immediate and more remote effects arising from the conquests of the Moguls.* ”

The Students read and translated in the several Oriental languages.

Prizes were then delivered by the Chairman according to the following report :

Report of Students who have obtained Medals, Prizes, and other honourable Distinctions, at the Public Examination, May 1827.

Medals, Prizes, and other honourable Distinctions to Students of the Fourth and Third Terms leaving College.

Eyles Valentine Irwin, medal in political economy, prize in Bengali, and with great credit in other departments.

George Todd, medal in law, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Samuel Sneade Brown, medal in Persian, prize in Hindustani, prize in Arabic, and with great credit in other departments.

James Grant Lumsden, medal in classics, prize in law.

Robert Renny, medal in mathematics.

Prizes, Third Term.

James Carnegie, prize in mathematics, prize in political economy, and with great credit in other departments.

Neil Benjamin Edmonstone, prize in Persian, prize in Hindustani.

John Muir, prize in classics, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Edmund Smith, prize in Bengali, and highly distinguished in other departments.

John Thornton, prize for best English essay, and highly distinguished in other departments.

James Burnett Fraser, first prize in

Sanscrit, and with great credit in other departments.

Strachan Irving Popham, second prize in Sanscrit, and with great credit in other departments ; also prize in drawing.

Second Term.

Charles Clerk, prize in mathematics, prize in law, prize in Persian, prize in Hindustani.

Wm. Francis Thompson, prize in classics, prize in Bengali, and highly distinguished in other departments.

George Sparks, prize in Sanscrit, prize in Arabic, and highly distinguished in other departments.

John Sutherland Law, prize in history, and highly distinguished in other departments.

First Term.

John Peter Grant, prize in mathematics, prize in English composition, and highly distinguished in other departments.

William Hunter, prize in Persian, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Mosley Smith, prize in Bengali, and highly distinguished in other departments.

Thomas Louis, prize in Hindustani, and highly distinguished in other departments ; also prize in Persian writing.

Robert Deane Parker, prize in Sanscrit.

John M. G. Robertson, prize in classics.

The following Students, although they did not obtain prizes, were highly distinguished in the examination :—

4th Term.	Cornish, Lean, Timins.
3d Term.	Colvin, Donnelly, Gordon, Ewart, Wilmot.
2d Term.	Tyler, McLeod, Hallett, Unwin, Chambers, Bishop.

And the following passed with great credit:

4th Term.	Harvey.
3d Term.	Chas. Davidson.
2d Term.	Dick, Robt. Davidson, Onslow, Skipwith,

	Skipwith,
	Cumine,
	Farrant.
1st Term.	Liddell,
	Newbery,
	Courtney,
	Kinloch,
	White,
	La Touche.
Mr. Woodcock, prize in Devanagari writing.	
Mr. Goad, prize in drawing.	

The rank of Students leaving College, as determined by the College Council, was then read, being as follows :

	BENGAL.
	1st Class.
4th Term.	Irwin,
	Cornish.
3d Term.	E. Smith,
	Carnegie,
2d Term.	Brown.
1st Term.	Grant.
	2d Class.
4th Term.	Todd,
	Lean,
	Harvey.
3d Term.	Donnelly,
	Renny,
	Chas. Davidson,
	Adams.
2d Term.	Tyler.
	3d Class.
4th Term.	Timins,
	Harper.
3d Term.	Luke,
	W. Law.
2d Term.	Drummond.
	MADRAS.
	(No 1st Class.)
	2d Class.
2d Term.	Bishop,
	Robt. Davidson.

	3d Class.
4th Term.	Forbes.
2d Term.	Rickards.
	BOMBAY.
	1st Class.
3d Term.	Lumsden.
2d Term.	Clerk.
	2d Class.
3d Term.	Tracey.
2d Term.	Chambers.

It was then announced that the certificates of the College Council were granted with reference not only to industry and proficiency, but also to *conduct*; and that this latter consideration had always a decided effect in determining the order of rank.

It was also announced, that such rank would take effect only in the event of the Students proceeding to India within *three months* after they are so ranked; and "should any Student delay so to proceed, he shall only take rank among the Students classed at the last examination previous to his departure for India, whether that examination should be held by the College Council or the London Board of Examiners, and shall be placed at the end of that class in which rank was originally assigned to him."

Notice was then given that the next Term would commence on Friday the 27th July, and that the Students were required to return to the College within the first four days of it (allowing the intervening Sunday), unless a statutable reason, satisfactory to the College Council, could be assigned for the delay; otherwise, the Term would be forfeited.

The Chairman (the Hon. H. Lindsay) then addressed the Students, expressing his gratification at the favourable result of the Examination, as well as at the excellent conduct of the general body of the Students; and the business of the day concluded.

Wednesday the 18th, and Wednesday the 25th July, are the days appointed for receiving Petitions at the India House, for candidates for admission into the College, for the Term which will commence on Friday, the 27th of July.

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

COURT-MARTIAL.

LIEUT. WARWICK.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Jan. 24, 1827.

— At an European General Court-Martial assembled at Agra on the 28th Nov. 1826, and on subsequent days, of which Lieut. Col. Com. R. Patton, C.B., is president, Lieut. Francis Warwick, of the 5th regt. N.I., was arraigned on the under-mentioned charges, *viz.*

Charge. 1st. For neglect of duty, in not attending to march off the regimental guards on Monday morning the 23th Aug. 1826, when regimental officer of the day, after having been warned, in regimental orders of the 23d Aug. 1826, that the next neglect of duty would be seriously taken notice of.

2d. For conduct unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, in falsely asserting that he was not nominated as officer of the day, although he had, two or three hours prior to making that assertion, sent his servant to direct the serjeant-major to march off the guards for him as officer of the day.

3d. For conduct highly unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, in sending a false report to the commanding officer on Tuesday morning the 29th August, purporting that he, Lieut. Warwick, had marched off the guards at the usual hour on the morning of the 28th August.

Upon which charges the Court came to the following decision :

Finding. The court having maturely weighed and considered the evidence and matter before them, do find the prisoner, Lieut. F. Warwick, of the 5th Bengal N.I., On the 1st charge, guilty ;

On the second charge, guilty ; and on the 3d charge, guilty of sending in a false report as stated in the charge ; but the court acquit the prisoner of conduct highly unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, on this charge.

Sentence. The Court adjudge the prisoner, Lieut. F. Warwick, of the 5th Bengal N.I., to be discharged from the service.

Approved.

(Signed) COMBERMERE,
Commander-in-chief.

Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief.

In consequence of certain circumstances connected with the case of Mr. Warwick, the Commander-in-chief remits the punish-

ment awarded, and will recommend to Government that he should be placed on the Pension List.

By order of his Exc. the Commander-in-chief.

W. L. WATSON, Adj. Gen. of Army.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Judicial Department.

Jan. 19. Mr. W. N. Garrett, judge and magistrate of Backergunge.

Mr. J. F. Cathcart, register of Rajeshahy, and joint magistrate stationed at Bogorah.

Mr. Jas. Shaw, magistrate of Burdwan.

Mr. F. Gouldsbury, register of Dinagepore, and joint magistrate stationed at Maldah.

• Mr. D. B. Morrisson, register of city of Dacca.

Mr. J. J. Harvey, 1st register of Burdwan.

Mr. H. Stainforth, 2d register of city of Benares.

Mr. F. J. Becher, register of Rungpore.

25. Mr. G. Stockwell, judge and magistrate of city of Benares.

Mr. W. R. Kennaway, register of Zillah Court at Etawah.

Territorial Department.

Jan. 4. Mr. H. Ricketts, joint magistrate and deputy collector of Balasore.

Mr. C. E. Trevelyan, assistant to commissioner at Dehlee.

11. Mr. C. Bury, assistant to magistrate and collector of Dacca.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Jan. 9, 1827.—26th N.I. Ens. J. L. Taylor to be lieut. v. Nash dec.; Lieut. H. Gordon to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. S. G. Johnston to be lieut. in suc. to Colebrook transf. to inv. estab.

Lieut. C. Symes, 19th N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Company.

Jan. 12.—Maj. J. Drysdell, 50th N.I., to command Calcutta Native Militia during absence of Maj. Costley.

Capt. R. Seymour, 26th N.I., to be a major of brigade on estab. in suc. to Capt. Faithful permitted to return to Europe.

Lieut. E. J. Dickey, 14th N.I., to command escort with political agent at Bhurtpore.

Assist.-surg. R. M. M. Thomson to be surg. to Bhurtpore Agency.

Assist. surg. J. M. Macra to perform medical duties of civil station of Patna, v. Thomson.

Cadets G. H. McGregor and Jas. Whiteford admitted to artill., and prom. to 2d lieuts.—Cadets W. G. McConnell, J. C. Salkeld, G. P. Brooke, J. S. Boswell, and E. De L'Etang admitted to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Head-Quarters, Jan. 4, 1827.—Ens. J. R. B. Andrews removed from 18th to 52d N.I.

Ens. W. B. Thompson to do duty with 67th N.I. at Dinapore.

Cornet J. D. Baring to do duty with 1st L.C.

Jan. 5.—Assist.surg. W. H. Rogers directed to place himself under orders of superintend. surg. at Cawnpore.

Assist.surg. A. K. Lindsay, returned from Singapore, appointed to 4th Extra N.I., at Juanpore.

Assist.surg. Stenhouse removed from 4th Extra to 22d N.I.

Jan.

Jan. 8.—*Cornets (recently admitted) posted to Regiments.* J. D. Macnaghten to 6th L.C. at Muttra. G. Scott, 4th do., Nusseerabad. G. R. Budd, 3d do., Keitah. C. M. Gascoyne, 5th do., Neemuch. W. Master, 10th do., Meerut. T. F. B. Beaton, 6th do., Muttra.

Ensigns (recently admitted) posted to Regiments. W. Blackwood to 59th N.I. at Barrackpore. C. Steele, 26th do., Cawnpore. G. Durant, 32d do., Keitah. H. Apperley, 6th do., Kurnaul. G. M. Hill, 2d extra do., Futtehgurh. H. J. Blunt, 48th do., Neemuch. W. Cox, 19th do., Nusseerabad. Æ. J. Mackay, 16th do., Goruckpore. J. S. Alston, 27th do., Benares. J. H. W. Mayow, 14th do., Lucknow. W. H. Lomer, 43d do., Saugor. H. S. Grimes, 30th do., Cuttack. L. C. Fagan, 11th do., Kurnaul. C. D. Bailey, 56th do., Nusseerabad. J. C. Scott, 20th do., Barrackpore.

Jan. 9.—Assist.surg. D. A. McLeod to do duty with 54th N.I., in Assam.

Jan. 13.—*Ensigns appointed to do duty.* C. Ralfe, W. C. McConnell, G. P. Brooke, J. C. Salkeld, and J. S. Boswell, with 67th N.I., at Dinapore; M'Lean, with 2d do., at Keitah; W. Shaw with 54th do., at Rungpore (Assam).

Capt. R. Seymour to be maj. of brigade to troops in Cuttack district.

Assist. surg. Small to do duty with H.M.'s 14th Foot, and Assist.surg. Llewellyn with H.M.'s 87th ditto.

Fort William, Jan. 20.—3d N.I. Ens. C. Rogers to be lieut. from 6th Jan., v. Martin dec.

19th N.I. Ens. J. C. Drummond to be lieut. from 9th Jan., v. Symes resigned.

Capt. J. Colvin, of engineers, to be superintendent of canals in Dehly territory and adjoining districts, v. Tickell.

Mr. C. M. Gascoyne admitted to cav. and prom. to cornet.

Lieut. Beddingfield, of artil., to superintend a revenue survey of Lower Assam.

Assist.surg. W. Graham to perform medical duties of civil station of Barripore, v. Tweddell.

Assist.surg. H. M. Tweddell to perform medical duties of civil station of Chittagong, v. Graham.

Jan. 26.—Maj. Gen. Sir G. Martindell to command fortress of Buxar, v. Sir T. Browne, proceeded to Europe.

Lieut. Col. Murray, H.M. 16th Lancers, to be a brigadier on estab., v. Colonel M'Combe.

Lieut. E. J. Smith, of engineers, to be executive engineer of 6th or Allahabad div. of department of public works, and of garrison of Allahabad, &c. &c., v. Irvine proceeding to Europe.

52d N.I. Ens. C. Darby to be lieut. from 17th Jan., v. Mackay dec.

To be Capt. by Brevet. Lieuts. W. H. Wake, 44th N.I.; T. D'Oyly, regt. of artil.; and J. S. Kirby, ditto.

Cornet W. B. Kelly, late doing duty with 1st L.C., struck off strength of army from 26th Jan.

Head-Quarters, Jan. 19.—Lieut. Col. P. T. Comyn removed from 37th to 53d N.I., and Lieut. Col. G. D. Heathcote from 53d to 37th do.

Jan. 22.—Capt. Carleton, 1st Europ. regt., placed under orders of resident of Hyderabad.

Jan. 23.—Maj. Gen. Pine to command presidency division in room of Maj. Gen. the Earl of Carnwath embarked for Europe.

Jan. 25.—Assist. Com. of Ordnance A. Cameron re-appointed to Allahabad magazine.

Assist. Com. of Ordnance G. Bachman posted to Saugor magazine.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—*Jan. 9.* Assist.surg. A. Wardrop, for health.—10. Capt. R. C. Faithfull, 14th N.I., for health.—Lieut. J. S. Mostyn, 5th Extra N.I., on private affairs.—12. Lieut. Col. M. W. Brown, of artil., for health.—Lieut. Col. G. Knight, pension estab.—Lieut. A. Irvine, of engineers, for health.—Capt. G. Hawes, 51st N.I., on private affairs.—Assist.surg. R. Frith, Bombay estab., for health.—15. Surg. Angus Hall, on private affairs.—20. 1st-Lieut. R. G. McGregor, of

artil., for health.—26. Lieut. Col. H. Huthwaite, 34th N.I., for health.—Capt. J. Angelo, 3d L.C., for health.—Lieut. A. Conolly, 6th L.C., for health.—2d-Lieut. G. B. Birch, of artil., for health.—Assist.surg. O. Wray, on private affairs.—Cornet C. Grant, 1st L.C., on ditto.—Lieut. W. A. Crawford, 1st Bombay L.C., on ditto.

To Singapore.—*Jan. 26.* Lieut. Col. C. Pooler, 14th N.I., for six months, for health.

To St. Helena.—Maj. W. R. C. Costley, 7th N.I., for twelve months, for health.

To New South Wales.—*Jan. 12.* Lieut. Col. G. D. Heathcote, 53d N.I., for eighteen months, for health.—1st-Lieut. H. F. Hughes, of artil., for two years, for health.

To Cape of Good Hope.—*Jan. 20.* Maj. W. Pattle, 1st L.C., for twelve months, for health.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—*Jan. 10.* Assist.surg. Shean, 13th L.Dr., for health.—Lieut. Cooper, Queen's Royals, to exchange into another corps, or upon h.p.—Lieut. Richardson, 6th Foot, for health.—Lieut. Hewson, 87th Foot, for health.—15. Lieut. Peacock, 59th Foot, on private affairs.—20. Maj. Gen. the Earl of Carnwath, on private affairs.—Capt. Harris, 16th Lancers, for purpose of taking charge of regimental depot.—Capt. Aplin, 89th Foot, on private affairs.—Lieut. Bolton, 59th Foot, for health.

To remain in India.—*Jan. 10.* Lieut. Cochrane, 87th Foot, for six months, after embarkation of his corps for England.

I.A.W.

SUPREME COURT, Dec. 23.

General Martine's Education Fund.—A decision highly interesting to the cause of education in India has taken place relative to this fund. Claude Martine, well known by his eccentric habits and character,* was a native of Lyons, who deserted from General Lally's army at Pondicherry, entered the British service, and subsequently rose to the rank of major-general, and to the possession of immense wealth at Lucknow. Among the bequests in his will was the following, *verbatim* :

"Article 24. I give and bequeath the sum of two hundred thousand sicca rupees to the town of Calcutta, for to be put at interest in Government paper or the most secure mode possible, and this, principal and interest, to be put under the protection of Government or the Supreme Court, that they may devise an institution the most necessary for the public good of the town of Calcutta, or establishing a school for to educate a certain number of children of any sex to a certain age, and to have them put apprentice to some profession when at the conclusion of their school, and to have them married when at age; and I also wish that every year a premium of a few rupees or other things, and a medal, be given to the most deserving or virtuous boy or girl, or to both, to such that have come out of that school, or that are still in it, and this to be done on the same day in the month I died :

* See Authentic Anecdotes of his Life, in this Journal, vol. II. p. 567.

died: that day those that are to be married, are to be married, and to have a sermon preached at the church to the boys and girls of the school; afterward a public dinner for the whole, and a toast to be drunk in memorandum of the founder. This institution is to bear the title of "La Martinière," and to have an inscription, either on stone or marble, in large character, to be fixed in any part of the school, on it wrote "Instituted by Major General Martine, born the—of January 1735, at Lyons, who died the day, month, and, mentioning the day, month, and year, and buried at —, mentioning the place; and as I am little able to make any arrangement for such an institution, I am in hope Government or the Supreme Court will devise the best institution for the public good, and to have it, as I said above mentioned, in the name of the institutor. After every article of my, or this will and testament is or are fully settled, and every article provided and paid for, the several pensions or other gifts, donations, institution and other, any sum remaining may be made to serve, first, to buy or build a house for the institution, as that it may be made permanent and perpetual, by securing the interest by Government paper, either in India or Europe; that the interest annually may support the institution. For this reason, I give and bequeath one hundred and fifty thousand sicca rupees more, according to the proportion that may remain after every article of this testament is fulfilled, then this sum to be added for the permanency of that institution: making the sum of three hundred and fifty thousand sicca rupees."

Proceedings took place in this court, in order to carry the testator's intentions into effect. In November 1816, the then advocate-general (Mr. Stretell), at the instance of John Martin Wickens and others, against Palmer and Deverinne, obtained a decree that the charitable bequests do pass by the said will; and that the bequests in the clause recited should be established, and the sum of two lacs, confessed by executors, be applied to the purposes there named. It was also decreed, that it should be referred to the master to report on the scheme proposed for the distribution of the fund, and to take an account of the personal estate of the testator.

In August 1819 it was decreed that all the different causes in this case, amounting to four, should be consolidated, and that the master should take an account of the real estate lying in Calcutta. The master accordingly made his report on all matters except the charity, which report, bearing date the 25th November 1822, was confirmed by decree of 22d December in the same year; and by this decree it was decided, that the bequest to Calcutta

bore interest, and it was further decreed that the master should report whether the estate was adequate to pay the further bequest of Sa. Rs. 150,000, and if sufficient, then it was decreed that this additional bequest should be established. Upon this the master did inquire and ascertain that the estate, from the 13th June 1811, was adequate, and that sum, &c. was set forth in the schedule. The report of the master (Mr. Lewin) then recites the petition of the advocate-general (Compton), 1816, and the consequent purchase and conveyance of land in Calcutta for the purpose of building on. The report then proceeds to recite, that Mr. Poc attended for the community of Lyons; and the scheme proposed for the application of the charity, extracts of which are quoted in another place.

By a decree of the 2d December 1822, it was referred to the master to inquire who were the heirs and next of kin of the testator by the law of England, as also by the Mahomedan law; and by commission, executed 7th July 1823, it was ascertained who were the next of kin and personal representatives of the testator, and that it is supposed the next of kin reside at Lyons, &c.

Finally, on the 26th October last, the master reported a scheme for carrying into effect the charitable bequests to the town of Calcutta, contained in the aforesaid clause of Gen. Martine's will, of which the following are the principal articles.

1st. That a grammar school be founded in Hastings' Place, upon the ground already purchased, according to the general plan of the Charter-House or Christ's Hospital, in London, as far as adapted to the circumstances of this country.

2d. That the object and design of the said school be to combine, as far as possible, the purposes of charity with those of education, to promote useful knowledge, sound learning, morals and religion, and in particular to raise the standard of education, and by consequence improve the moral and intellectual character of the Christian population, male and female, of Calcutta and its vicinity.

3d. That for the greater number of the boys who are likely to be received into the school, a good commercial education will be the most suitable and proper. That such boys be accordingly brought up and qualified for such situations as they may be hereafter likely to fill, and that a certain number, having attained the proper age, be put out apprentices to the several trades and callings.

4th. That a small number of youths to be received into the school, who may display superior capacities and desire of improvement, justifying the expectation of their being enabled to attain greater proficiency in learning and science, should

receive a classical and liberal education, and be retained in the school to a later age, to give them an opportunity of availing themselves to the fullest extent of the means of instruction and improvement.

5th. That with a view to a provision being made for such last-mentioned class, and to enable them to become more eminently useful, some of the most advanced and deserving of this class be occasionally selected and transferred to the foundation of Bishop's College.

8th. That the girls to be received on the foundation be qualified by the education they will have received at the school to become teachers in other female schools, and that every endeavour be made by those concerned in the management of the school to put out those girls, who may not have been previously married, in some suitable situation or employment, in which they may be able to support themselves by their industry and acquirements.

9th. The object mentioned in the last preceding article being one of equal difficulty and importance, it is proposed that whenever pecuniary means may be at the disposal of the governors of the school to be derived from any future augmentation of the funds, and not required for other indispensable purposes, be primarily employed to facilitate and advance the same.

11. It appears that the whole amount of the fund standing to the credit of the Calcutta Charity, consisting of Company's securities bearing interest at five per cent., was on the 30th day of September 1826, Sicca Rupees 7,31,400.

12th. It is proposed that a sum of Sicca Rupees 1,70,000 be in the first instance set apart as likely to be required for the building intended to be erected for the school.

13th. That the said building be calculated for the reception and accommodation of a hundred scholars, including those on the foundation, and boarders who would pay for their schooling, besides day scholars who would only resort to the school for the purposes of instruction.

14th. That in determining on the plan of the intended building, especial regard be had to the necessity of keeping separate in every respect, and to the utmost practicable extent, the male from the female children.

18th. That it is computed that about forty scholars might be received on the foundation, and maintained and educated at the school.

19th. Adverting to the inconvenience and mischief that might be apprehended from having a large number of scholars of both sexes collected in one establishment, as well as to the difficulty likely to be experienced in relieving the institution from the burden of continuing to support those female scholars whose education

shall have been completed, it is submitted that the number of the boys upon the foundation should bear a proportion of three-fourths to that of the girls, and that the boarders and day scholars to be received into the school paying for the same do consist exclusively of boys.

26th. It is submitted, that by constructing a building capable of accommodating a much larger number of scholars than the funds of the institution would be able to support on the foundation alone, the profit to be derived from such additional number of boarders, as well as from the day scholars, would, in addition to the other receipts of the school already mentioned, constitute an income exceeding altogether the amount of Sicca Rupees 2,000 per month.

27th. It is proposed that all children of indigent Christian British subjects, without regard to birth or race, be deemed eligible to be received on the foundation of the school, with the exception hereinafter specified, provided only that the parents of such child or children shall have resided at some period of their lives in Calcutta or its suburbs.

28th. That no child or children who in respect of their, his, or her father, would be, or might have been entitled to be admitted into the Military Orphan School, be deemed eligible to "La Martinière."

29th. That in all cases of competition, in regard to admission on the foundation of the school, a preference be given to destitute orphans and fatherless children.

Appended to the report is the following schedule :

Schedule C.

The fund of the Calcutta Charity and the appropriation proposed in the foregoing scheme are exhibited in the following statement :—

Statement of the funds belonging to the Calcutta Charity, and of the distribution proposed to be made of the same, according to the present scheme, Company's 5 per cent. securities.....		Sa. Rs.
		7,31,400
Deduct advance required for buildings, &c. by four instalments.....		1,70,000
		5,61,400
Computed accumulation of the growing subsequent interest on do., at 5 per cent., up to 31st March 1829 ...		76,000
		6,37,400
Deduct allowance for the purpose of books, school furniture, and other preliminary purposes		27,400
		6,10,000
		Annual

Annual interest on the above 6,10,000 at 5 per cent., after deducting accountant - general's poundage	Sa. Rs. 28,975
Deduct set apart for medals and apprentice fees for the boys, per annum	1,500
Set apart for premiums and marriage portions or other useful purposes for the girls, per annum.....	1,475
Set apart for the repairs of the buildings, per annum	2,000
	4,975
Leaves applicable to ordinary current expenses of the in- stitution	24,000
Joint salary of master and mis- tress, per month	500
Expenses of maintaining 30 boys and 10 girls, at 32 Rs. each, per month	1,280
Teachers per month	120
Medicines and medical atten- dance, per month.....	50
Contingent charges per month	50
	2,000
For twelve months	24,000

J. LEWIN, *Master*.

On this report, after the arguments of counsel, the court delivered the following opinion.

The Chief Justice considered the case as one of the highest importance; it would be the first decision that the statutes of mortmain do not apply to the colonies. Taking it for granted, he observed, that we may act on the precedent of the "*Attorney-general v. Stewart*," that the statutes of mortmain are not applicable in the colonies, and that we may act on the former decrees in this cause, setting aside for the moment the consideration of the objection raised against our doing so, we proceed next to inquire what provisions of the testator are not contrary to law:

1st. There is no ground of law to prevent aliens receiving the benefit of any charitable institution, and I think it quite clear that the testator intended to apply it to all nations. He was himself a Frenchman, and he certainly has not limited the extension of the charity to British subjects, or to any individuals of any country. I do not see therefore (not being contrary to law), that all nations should not be admitted; and on this point the report must be corrected.

2d. There is no stipulation as to religion in the 24th clause of the will, but

that the children must attend a sermon; but that cannot be construed to prevent persons, who are unwilling that their children should attend a Christian school and place of worship, from receiving the benefits of the fund. I would not make it a primary object to conversion. The testator would not, in my opinion, have excluded any one of any denomination of religion from any benefits they might be capable of receiving from the institution.

3d. With reference to what has been urged by counsel in behalf of the next of kin of the testator, that they (his kindred) ought to be favoured in the scheme of this charity, I do not see any thing to warrant such a preference. I am of opinion that they ought not to be so favoured; for if they were, they would soon appropriate to themselves the whole school. I am acquainted with a college at Oxford, that of "All Souls," at which the founder gave a preference to the kindred of Arthur Chicheley. I believe it has been certified by the *Herald's College* lately, that for the last century not one applicant for admission to the benefit of this foundation has failed in proving himself to be of kin to Arthur Chicheley!

4th. I think that the charity should be confined to children whose parents were at some time or other resident in Calcutta; for the funds are not large, and Calcutta being a seaport and a capital, is visited by many who reside only a short time in it, and whose children therefore would, according to the scheme, be eligible to the benefits of the institution; and I see no reason for any further extension as to India, that would not equally apply to the whole world.

These are the observations that occur to me as to the class of persons eligible. The next consideration is, what the testator intended as to the nature of the education to be bestowed on the children admitted to the benefits of the charity. Without reference to such intentions, my own views would have been very much in suspense between the two kinds of education, *viz.* a cheap and common one to a large number, or a higher one to a smaller number; and, considering the tendency of this age to extend establishments of the former nature, I should have inclined to the latter; but the intentions of the testator are so clearly marked out that we have no option. I think it is clear, by the mention of apprentices, he intended a common education, to make tradesmen and such as employ apprentices; but I do not think that it would be a deviation from the intentions of the testator, if in cases of display of extraordinary talents, an opportunity should be offered of elevating the individual who displayed them to a higher condition in life than that of a mechanic.

The general course of education should be

be reading and writing in Hindoostanee and English, and arithmetic. Classical literature is too expensive and useless for tradesmen, and therefore the basis of education should be as I have stated it; thus much with regard to the boys. I reserve my opinion as to the education of the girls for the present.

My opinion is that the proportion of girls should be small; not on the grounds of the report, but on the ground that the general benefit of the institution would be extended by educating boys, since girls would not find so many opportunities of making their education useful. The proportion of girls should, I think, be one-third, since they must live in the house, which would give rise to greater expenses, while boys may be day boarders.

Next as regards the funds of the institution, I estimate them at eight lakhs, and I consider 1,70,000 too much to appropriate to building: one-tenth of the whole would be amply sufficient for that purpose. A large school, a dining room, and a house above for master and mistress and ten girls, would include all that would be requisite. The style of the house must be decided by the estimates; but there should be a library, though not a costly one. The dining-room and school-room should be large enough for a much greater number of boarders, who should pay, though on a reasonable scale, for the whole of their education. Six lakhs only would remain as principal, and I fear the income could not be calculated at more than 30,000.

I differ from counsel for next of kin of the testator as to the salary of the master, for I think that every thing would depend on the character of the superintendents of the school, and I consider that 10,000 rupees per annum would not be too much to appropriate for the salaries of the master and mistress.

I cannot enter into details of domestic expense; but I should think that 15,000 rupees would be all that is needed for salaries and superintendence, and 15,000 would then remain for mere board (since parents of girls might find them clothes), and I should think that more than enough to support thirty boys and ten girls; but salary should depend on the number of scholars, and giving them a proportion of what other scholars, drawn to the school by his exertions, might pay. If extraordinary expenses of the boys and girls exceeded the estimate, they ought to be deducted.

The Government, I think, should have a *recto* in the management.

With respect to the title of the land bought for this institution, there is no error in it, in so far as I can discover. If, however, there is any error, means must be taken to have it rectified. The court can-

not remedy defects in the former proceedings; it can only look to ulterior measures, and if they are sufficiently formal we must act on them.

I have thought of, but formed no deliberate opinion on the subject. What I have now said has been chiefly suggested by the arguments I have heard this morning, and I wish therefore what has fallen from me not to be regarded as the promulgation of a determinate judgment on the question, but merely as the expression of suggestions which have occurred to me, and which I shall be very happy to hear again argued if any of the parties to this suit shall think it necessary.

Sir John Franks.—Never having seen either the will or the report before, I shall not at present express any opinion on the case. I shall take both home with me and see how far the report follows the will. I may however observe, that I see no reason why in this case the next of kin should be preferred. There is one point connected with the question on which I own I should feel anxious: it is that what I have too frequently seen, of charitable funds being wasted in building palaces, may not take place with these.

LAW OF REAL PROPERTY IN INDIA.

Jebb v. Lefevre.—The decision in this case, which was given in our last number, is so important, especially as the matter has come under consideration in Parliament, that we think it expedient to insert the speeches of the judges at length, which we had not an opportunity of doing last month. These are given, apparently from a legal reporter, in the *Bengal Hurkaru*.

The question was brought before the court in the form of a special case, as follows:

On the 20th July 1824, George Rowland died intestate, in Calcutta, of which place he was a native, born in wedlock of native parents, of Portuguese descent; he left a widow, Caroline Rowland, and a son, George Henry Rowland, an infant aged one year, both of whom are living; the widow obtained letters of administration from the Supreme Court, and afterwards married Charles Lefevre, against whom and herself as administratrix this action was brought upon a promissory note of the intestate's; the defendants pleaded that they had no goods or chattels of the intestate, and the plaintiff at the time of the trial was unable to prove any assets, except that George Rowland at the time of his death was the owner of several parcels of lands and houses, some within the town of Calcutta and others in the neighbourhood. Some of these had been conveyed to him by lease and release to hold to him and his heirs; others by instruments known in Calcutta by the name of Bengallee bills of sales, and which have always been treated

treated among the natives of Calcutta as conveying the entire interest in lands as between the vendor and vendee, and also as Bengallee bills of sale severally contained clauses releasing to the vendee all claims from the vendor and his heirs, under which said bills of sale the said George Rowland obtained actual possession of the said lands, and was possessed thereof at the time of his death. These several parcels of land and houses, of which George Rowland was the owner, were at the time of the trial in the occupation of the defendants, &c. The question reserved for argument was whether the estate, property, or interest of George Rowland in these lands, or any of them, was assets to be administered by his administratrix for the payment of his debts.

The judges of the Supreme Court gave their judgment, *seriatim*.

The *Chief Justice* stated, that it not being the practice of the court to give judgment during sittings, they would merely express their opinions that day, for the purpose of judgment being drawn up next term.

It appeared from the case that George Rowland died intestate and left a child and a widow, who afterwards married Charles Lefevre. The plaintiff could not prove any assets except some land which was in the occupation of the defendants.

Upon this several questions had been started which certainly might have been settled long ago. The plaintiff's counsel argued that under the British law, established by charter, lands were chattels, that chattels were instruments of commerce, that the language of the charter never mentioned heirs, and relied on the opinion of Sir Francis McNaghten who conceived all lands were chattels.

Sir Francis McNaghten however only mentioned that pottah lands do not convey a fee, but he did not say that if a different title existed it may not be a fee. The plaintiff's counsel had not contended that the entire interest in lands did not exist in this country, and the question related merely to the mode of inheritance; beyond this his Lordship did not know that any thing had been alleged.

It had become a question what law existed in this country, and to what extent the English law prevailed. If a British subject had an entire interest and held land, his Lordship was at a loss to see why he had not the right of inheritance according to the law of England. When the English first landed here no other but the Mohammedan law existed, and in the time of Montesquieu it was not supposed that there was any thing like the Shastras. It would no doubt make the English lawyers start in the times of Elizabeth and James, to hear that either the Hindoo

or Mohammedan law prevailed over the English: but such was the case occasionally, every one knew, but only according to special provisions by statute.

As to the power of the East-India Company, in one of the charters granted to them in the time of Charles II., it was enacted, that they should have the power to judge all persons, living under the government, according to the laws of England. There were several charters granted to them down to 1774, and the court at first recognized no other but the English law, until seven years after it was established; the natives had the benefit by act of Parliament of their own Mahomedan and Hindoo laws in matters of descent and inheritance, but that was confined exclusively to them: but the argument by no means stopped here. In the immense continent of America the common law of England was held to extend, and in Chalmers' Opinions and Stokes' Colonial Law it was shewn most clearly that the common law of England existed in the colonies.

The old charters gave the Company the power to hold lands in fee simple, and also to grant and alienate. One of them in particular expressly stated that they should not grant to any persons but subjects of his Majesty. This was the charter of 1666 granting Bombay to the Company.

As to the right of the Company to hold real property according to the law of England, it was unquestionable. In the time of Queen Anne there was a regular transfer of what is called dead stock from one company to another, and by letters patent of 1758, that right was especially recognized and confirmed to them, after the statement that the place was wrongfully taken from them by the Subadar. Under these circumstances, if any inference could be drawn, it was that the Company could hold and grant fees.

From the 13th section of the charter and in the 13th Geo. III., relative to real and mixed actions, the inference was that the king regarded the possible existence of fees in this country.

It was therefore quite preposterous to say that there was no real property in India. No decision of the Supreme Court had ever gone to the extent of saying there was no distinction between real and personal property, or that there was any difference between them here not prevailing in England. In "*Doe on the demise of Savage v. Bacharum v. Paul*," and "*Ronald v. Jacob*" the court decided that land was real property, but subject to the payment of debts; and in the cases of "*Anderson v. 5th Vesey*," "*Gardner v. Fell*" in Jacob and Walker, the point of inheritance had been decided, and his Lordship hoped there would be no more question about it.

The whole interest of the property in question was conveyed to George Rowland, and his Lordship therefore took the question to be, whether estates of inheritance in the hands of the owner were liable to simple contract debts; and, though he thought they were, he yet felt this difficulty, that if the fee existed before 1774 the widow had a right to dower, and there were no words in the charter strong enough to bar the widow's right to dower. Nor did his Lordship think that it authorized taking in execution the whole of the lands, either for simple contract debts or specialty, but that the court ought always to confine the execution to the *chrgt*. His Lordship did not wish to introduce the practice here, but he would say that if the question of the wife's right were started, he did not know on what ground it could be denied. It was not decided whether the executor's right depended on debts or not. Sir Francis McNaghten had denied the right; and supposing the executor got possession of the property, could the heir turn him out by an ejectment, or if the executor got possession and held over, could the heir, if he had the right, turn him out at all by law? It was said he only had a right for a year, but where was any thing of the kind to be found in the charter? The rights of an executor, if he had any, were utterly undefined, and as to the question of the cessation of such right, that was evidently the subject of equity. By law, if he had any right and could distrain for rent, why could he not hold the property for ever? His Lordship knew of many anomalies arising from the extraordinary modification of the law contended for; and he did not know any thing which strongly marked the intention of the charter that land should be liable for debt after the death of the possessor; still less that it should go for that purpose to the executor; nor was there any thing to shew that the law gave it to the executor.

His Lordship was satisfied that previous to the charter of 1774, there were estates of inheritance in this country, but he believed the existence of this circumstance did not enter the heads of those who framed it, and he thought that the court might without much stretch of power give execution of lands against the heir for specialty or for any sort of debt; yet he could see no intention in the charter that lands should pass to the executor, nor could they so pass without causing confusion.

In the case of "Bacharam Tagore," Sir R. Chambers was made to say that a third of the residue of the estate after payment of debts should go to the widow; but that was not her dower, but something in lieu of it, and it would require much ingenuity to persuade the court that the words of the charter had any such effect.

In the time of George II. it appeared on argument that in some of our West-India colonies land had been made liable in the hands of the executor, and not in others, and an act, the 5th Geo. II. c. 7, was passed to compel lands to become subject for debt in the hands of the heir; it did that and it did no more, and it was most probable that the framers of the charter meant to make all lands liable as by that act in the hands of the heir.

By the 47th of George III., framed by Sir Samuel Romilly, the lands of traders were liable as assets in the hands of an heir, but it never entered his mind to make them so in the hands of the executor; and as reasons of convenience may properly be looked to in construing the charter, the judges of the court after the first establishment of the charter might have acted in analogy to the principles of that act, if borne out by the charter; but that those who framed the charter never intended that lands were liable in the hands of the executor his Lordship was sure. If that were the case the heir would be disinherited behind his back; and that he could not be so, even by act of Parliament, without express words, was clear, and the dictum cited by counsel in argument was an exposition of the law.

The case of an executor was extremely different to that of an administrator, it was much stronger; and even if the court decided that an executor should take the land, it would not follow that the administrator should have the same power.

In the case of "Doe on the demise of Savage" his Lordship found a different usage, and eleven years after the charter had been granted it was held that the executor should possess the land, but the report of that case was extremely erroneous. That of "Doe on the demise of Kiernander v. Watson" established in some degree the rights of executors. In that of "Ronald v. Jacob," the point was not expressly decided, but Sir Francis McNaghten held that if a fee existed it should go to the heir.

His Lordship thought that the court was bound, even at the expense of temporary convenience, to return to the English law, as it was applicable in this country to cases of this nature. If any inconvenience arose from it, it would, no doubt, be remedied by the legislature, but until then the court would act according to what they considered the law of the case.

Hitherto the court seemed to have supposed that there were no estates of inheritance, and in the case of "Bacharam Tagore," which he had cited, it acted on a principle which could not be upheld at the present day, that an executor should take the property, the wife's dower and all, and after the payment of debts to give her a third of what remained.

His Lordship thought that it was desirable,

sirable, that lands in this country should be made liable for simple contract debts in the hands of the heir, but not in that of the executor. It was necessary that there should be some distinction between moveable and immoveable property, and that the moveable should be first exhausted before they proceeded to the immoveable, and he would like to see some law making lands, except the wife's dower, applicable to the debts of the owner.

Sir Anthony Buller had given his opinion fully when the case of "*Ronald v. Jacob*" had come before the court, and he therefore did not think it necessary to say much on the present occasion. He admitted that the old charters intended, that if the Company got lands they should hold them in the same manner as landholders did in England, but the charters of Geo. I. and II. made no mention of real property, nor was the omission noticed till 1774. It appeared, on an inquiry by him and *Sir Edward East*, that the Company held the whole country as zemindars at a fixed rent, and as late as 1758 there was a grant made by the subadar to the English Company to hold Bengal as far south as Calpee. It was then the first time that the legislature really took into consideration that we could acquire real property; and without saying that the English law of inheritance might not have existed here before the last charter, his Lordship would say that it had then begun.

His Lordship thought some difficulty would be experienced in saying that the present charter, in establishing new rights, took away the old. There was no doubt that before it was granted, lands were held for debt like all other chattels, and the judges probably thought themselves bound by this consideration, and his Lordship could not think they were wrong.

In the 15th section the charter alluded to the rights of heirs, and immediately after that of executors and administrators; and his Lordship believed it was meant to make them defendants in actions brought against them for real estates of testators, and to give execution against them as such; and that shewed that they had the power of selling such possessions for the payment of such debts. In the case of "*Ronald v. Jacob*" the point was not expressly decided.

In *Comyn's Digest* it was laid down that land in foreign plantations was subject to the payment of debts in the hands of executors, and in *Toller* that it was personalty, and so it was in *Burn*.

There was a great difficulty in treating an estate that as a chattel went first to an executor and then as one of inheritance; but it would not go for an indefinite term, and it would be held and taken as a chattel, the interest being definite under the statute of *Merton*.

In this view of the case there certainly appeared some difficulty as to dower, but it had been held to attach as well as all other rights incident to freehold property after payment of debts. An executor could hold landed property as long as he did any other chattels, and when he was applied to by equity, the court could decree that the property be delivered over. The point had been decided so long ago as 1785, and ever since that time landed property was considered subject to payment of debts, and so decided that no person ever thought of raising the question at all. His Lordship considered himself bound by decisions of equal authority with himself, and he felt it to be wrong to contravene or shake them, especially when he considered the injury that would arise from it. If they were wrong, his Lordship would leave them to the Court of Appeal or to the Legislature to correct.

Sir John Franks stated, it was the first time he had heard a question of such a nature argued. He would have felt more confident had he known the number and grounds of former decisions, and he first considered that the estate of the heir could not be affected by the 13th Geo. III.; but when he understood there were contrary decisions, he looked anxiously into it to form his in conformity if he could.

The 13th, 14th, and 15th sections of the charter materially concerned questions of this kind, and it was somewhat strange that they did not once mention the name of heir. It was necessary therefore to examine into the object of the charter, which was to give an additional remedy to creditors without affecting the rights of any one.

His Lordship had endeavoured to find in the charter something which was strong enough to affect the constitutional rights of the heir, considering the right confirmed by the general law of England, by a charter in which he was not once named, and in foreign possessions of the crown to look at the words by which the heir was affected in his rights.

To decide a question of such a nature it was necessary to take three points into consideration; namely, what estate *George Rowland* would have possessed previous to the charter of 1774; what remedy his creditors would have had if he died intestate; and by what means they would arrive at that remedy.

It was competent with the crown to give any law it pleased to this country, and it was therefore necessary to inquire what law it had established here; usage did not form law. There could be particular laws against common law, and they were held good if recognized beyond legal memory of man, but only then. The 43d of *Elizabeth* gave the Company the power to purchase lands and hereditaments, and the

the grant of Bombay was in free and common socage. The charters which followed down to the 13th of George I. were all confirmatory of that, and enabled the Company to acquire lands, tenements, and hereditaments; the latter was a most general term, nearly the most general, and certainly intended for estates of fee.

The 13th of George I. gave the judges the power to give execution only against goods and chattels, but the charter provided a process in case of contempt against estate and effects, not against goods and chattels, and so in like manner did that of George II; and the inference that could be drawn from them was that the framers of these charters must have been aware of the existence of estates of inheritance.

Holding that George Rowland could and might possibly have acquired estates of fee, what estate, it could be inquired, had he at the time of his death? The words of the case provided an answer, and according to them it was an estate in fee, and the creditors, if the law gave it to them, had a right to it.

By common law a simple contract creditor could not, previous to 1774, have taken land for the debts of the owner, but the charter that was granted in that year had provided a remedy. The 13th section of it gave real and mixed actions against British subjects therein specified, and against their executors and administrators. The 15th section gave execution against houses and lands, and the sale of them in payment to plaintiffs. The 13th mentioned execution and the subject of it, namely, lands, only once, and made no difference in words between defendant and executor and administrator, and if so, what sort of execution did it intend to give against the personal representative of the defendant? It would not be sanctioned by the subsequent sections to separate real assets from personal; and Mr. Winter made an ingenious distinction that execution was given against the estate of the executor, or he was to be imprisoned. But that never could have been against the executor, and the execution must certainly have been against the estate of the testator or the intestate. The legislature had the intention of making the estate fund for the payment of debts without altering the tenure by the law of England. At common law no debt could be recovered but those in which the heir was bound as by recognition; and though the statute of Merton superinduced on the right of the heir to a chattel interest it did not alter the inheritance or tenure; it would therefore be inquired by what means the debt would be recovered out of the inheritance. There was nothing in the law of the country that prevented the right of the creditor being pursued without disturbing the tenure. The law gave a new fund and gave an

action for it against the executor, because he was a party present and interested in defending, and the heir being likely to be absent, it made the executor an intermediate party to defend. Was it more novel therefore that a personal creditor should be able to prove his debt against the executor, than that there should be a recovery of personal debts while the possessor was living and absent from the spot? and therefore if it were intended that all debts should be charges on inheritance (which was a serious question), it meant it should be so in the hands of the executor. His Lordship conceived it was so even by analogy to the common law of England in certain cases, and quoted Sugden on Powers, in support of such an inference.

By the bankrupt laws, power was given to assignees who under them had the right to transfer fees and so to alienate. This was common and by no means novel; and it was necessary to have estates vested in them to perform and act under such powers. The sheriff here acted under the same authority, and the sale made by him transferred the whole of the estate and interest in the premises to the creditor. He could sell with execution, but how could the executor sell where there was no execution? The charter provided for that by giving as remedies the sale of lands and satisfaction out of the produce.

The common law and acts of parliament must be construed according to equity and good sense. That in the charter was a remedial law; the object was the payment of debts, and they were better paid without suit. The law pointed out the executor as the person to be sued, and therefore that settled the point, since equity and good sense required it; and what would equity do? It would make him do that without suit which he was compellable to do with it. Here, as the creditor had a right to sell, the executor had a right to pay, and should hold the property for that purpose. It could be said indeed, what was the security of the heir if the estates could be sold? The answer was that the heir had the whole beyond the debts, and there was nothing that warranted his disinheritation; but it did not exonerate him from paying specialties in common law, and under the statute of Westminster and by the charter he was bound for simple contract debts; and as he could not be sued here but the executor, the latter had the right, and should consider it his duty to appropriate the rents and profits to the payment of the debts of the intestate, and to sell the estate if necessary.

Under these circumstances his Lordship thought the plea of goods and chattels sufficiently answered; and that as the duration of the executor's interest was indeterminate, landed property was a chat-
tel

tel possession in his hands. His interest was commensurate with the extent and duration of debts, and determined with them.

In giving his judgment in favour of the plaintiff, his Lordship expressed his satisfaction that the decision did not affect the right of the widow to dower. The clause which gave execution against lands here gave it only against the lands of the party defendant: now the right of the widow attaches upon marriage, and is antecedent to all debts contracted after it. On her marriage one-third of her husband's lands which he has or may have becomes her's, and the share of the widow is not therefore the land of the party against which execution is given.

MISCELLANEOUS.

JURIES IN INDIA.

We understand it is in contemplation, on the part of the most respectable Hindoos at the presidency, to hold a public meeting, in order to express their opinion on the East-India Jury Bill. This bill has been eulogized, both at home and in India, as one mighty step towards a more liberal system of administering the affairs of India; and some folks in England appear to have expected nothing less than a general illumination over the East on the glad tidings reaching our shores. So far as the Indo-Britons are concerned, it is an excellent measure, and one which was called for by a variety of the most urgent reasons; but so far as the Hindoo population are to be regarded, it is somewhat premature; and, with all due respect to Mr. Wynn, and the wisdom of Parliament, has been enacted in ignorance of much that ought to have been previously known and considered, in regard to the customs, habits, and prejudices of those for whose benefit it is intended. It will no doubt surprise the right honourable President to hear of this reception of a measure, which it was supposed would have been so highly acceptable to the natives of India; and if it lead to a closer examination of the real wants and wishes of our native subjects, on this and similar topics of popular clamour, and to seek for information in better channels than appear to have been followed, it will not be without its good effects.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Jan. 5.

The *John Bull* of yesterday announced the probability of a meeting being held by the most respectable Hindoos at the presidency, to express their opinion on the East-India Jury Act. We shall be very glad to hear the real and unbiassed sentiments of the respectable native inhabitants of Calcutta, and should a Chinnetomby Moodeljar offer himself, we think we can promise him an answer. The opinion of one respectable Hindoo was published in

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the *Bengal Chronicle*. The *Bull* wishes to make his readers believe that Mr. Wynn, not being favoured with the advice of persons so learned in all that concerns India as himself, could not possibly understand the habits and prejudices of Hindoos. We will, however, tell him that the bill was drawn under the advice of gentlemen whose residence in India, and experience in its affairs, fully qualify them to judge of its expediency, and that the exclusion of Hindoos from grand juries is the only part of the measure which may be considered to have originated with the President of the Board of Control. — [*Beng. Hurk.* Jan. 6.

The following is the letter from a Hindoo which is referred to above:

"I do not wonder at the servile conduct of any Hindoo community, especially of those at Madras and of its neighbouring provinces, to whom the epithet of "Hindoo" is still applicable in its strict sense. Numerous Moosulmans, of respectable foreign origin, residing for centuries in the provinces of Hindoostan, imparted, in some degree, to their Hindoo neighbours the feelings of self respect, though their constant association with the unfortunate Hindoos has gradually corrupted the manly notions which their forefathers possessed and implanted in the breast of the first and second generations. Even a Moosulman native of India, however learned and virtuous he may be, is looked on with contempt by foreigners as soon as he is known to be a Hindoo or native of India.

"Nadir Shah, one of the celebrated kings of Persia, during his invasion and conquest of India, observing the servile manner in which the noblemen, consisting of Hindoos and Moosulmans, used to offer adoration to Moohummud Shah, then reigning over India, seized with surprise, said, 'O brother Moohummud, thou dost not reign as a king, but as a God.' The natives of Pukhun, such as Madras and other provinces, not having had the same advantage of foreign intercourse, do still maintain, in a greater degree, their ancient notions, forms, and manners; such as abject prostration to power, preservation and worship of sacred fire, constant repetition of the passages of the Veds with solemn tones, exposure of females to the lustful admiration of others, &c.

"An instance of their want of candour and perfect servility evidently appears from the result of a meeting held on the 27th ultimo by the Hindoo inhabitants of Madras, on the occasion of the late Jury Bill passed by the Legislature in England. A large body of Madras Hindoos refrained at that meeting from expressing their objection to be made jurors according to the late Act of Parliament, on the honest and candid ground that the act alluded to is

not only incompatible with all the principles of justice, but even varies from the law and practice hitherto observed in England, since it subjects every Hindoo and Moossulman to the will and judgment of such jurors as profess the Christian faith, whether Europeans, country-borns, native Portuguese, Armenians, and even rice converts of Bangalore or Shreerampoor, without allowing a Hindoo or Moossulman a seat in the jury box in a case in which a Christian may happen to be one of the parties.

“These people pretended to assign the following circumstances as reasons for their unwillingness to become jurors in criminal trials, most probably to please some European gentleman of rank and power. They declare, in the first instance, their insufficiency in education, and in the knowledge of the English language, to be a cause of the objection made by them. I therefore ask, whether the judges of the Supreme Court are not competent to examine qualifications? Are not they authorized by the legislature to exercise their judgment in determining the competency of those whom they may summon as jurors? This excuse on the part of the natives is, I think, quite unnecessary and uncalled-for. Besides, it is a well-established fact, that if twenty Hindoos, sufficiently versed in English, can be found in Calcutta, there are at least 200 at Madras, whose knowledge of the English language has unquestionably enabled them to understand the charge of the judge in a criminal trial, and the arguments that a counsel may offer in the prosecution or defence of a case.

“Nothing can be more frivolous than their excuse, as to approaching a place in which a dead body may be kept during the inquest of the coroner. Do they not approach the place and enter into the room where pieces of beef are openly kept? Do they not feel proud of serving and touching one whose principal meal is beef, and who rejects the Veds as sacred books? Do they not take their meals in a town or village where, to the best of their knowledge and belief, cows and bulls are daily slain? Are not such practices more positively forbidden in the Shastrus than approaching a place where a dead body is kept? It cannot be supposed that they are habitually averse to approach a dead body, as we see them frequently approaching dead bodies placed in the bosoms of widows preparing for self-destruction, or on the bank of the Ganges.

“What shall we say of a man who pretends to dread the idea, that he may not be permitted to take refreshment during a trial from 10 A.M. to 4 or 5, or even 10 P.M., although this very man is found voluntarily abstaining from every kind of food on the two Ekadushes, or two particular lu-

nar days every month, and on the days of the birth of his supposed incarnations? What opinion are we to form of a person who objects to sit with one unknown to him, though he is often seen with others of different societies and sects in public courts as officers or defendants, and in mercantile transactions? As to the observance of ceremonies, I wish to know whether or not the Hindoos are permitted by the Shastrus to leave them on particular occasions to be performed by their relatives, and whether or not they frequently act according to this permission? Besides, the judges, who are liberal enough to permit an European juror, under any peculiar circumstances, to be away from court a day or two, would not refuse, I trust, a Hindoo juror the same indulgence.”

TEEKAH PALANKEENS AND BEARERS.

The Supreme Court of Judicature has registered a regulation respecting the number and fare of teekah palankeens and teekah bearers in Calcutta, and placing them under the control of the police. By this regulation a license must be obtained for letting out palankeens or serving as bearers, the number of either is to be limited. The numbers are to be placed on each side of every palankeen, in large characters, in English and Bengalee; and every bearer is to wear a badge on his right arm, with the number in large characters, English and Bengalee. The rates and hire of the palankeens and bearers are to be regulated by the justices of the peace, and to be published. Several other rules are laid down for these vehicles and their bearers, similar to our hackney-coach regulations.

CHURCH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

The third annual meeting of the Calcutta Church Missionary Association was held in the town-hall on the 15th Dec., the venerable Archdeacon Corrie, president, in the chair. The report of the committee's proceedings for the past year was read by the secretary, from which it appears that thirteen boys' schools are supported by the funds of the association. Each school contained about eighty scholars, and in all the thirteen schools no less than one thousand children are enjoying the benefits of education and Christian instruction. Two bungalow chapels are also lighted and kept in repair by the committee, and since the last annual meeting 2,000 rupees have been supplied by them for erecting a pukka chapel on the premises at Mirzapore. During the past year the sum of 5,800 rupees (including a balance in the treasurer's hand) has been realized in aid of the objects of the association, but the expenditure has exceeded this sum, leaving a balance against the association.

NATIVE FEMALE SCHOOLS.

On the 16th Jan. a public examination of the northern division of native female schools, supported by the Bengal Christian School Society, was held at the residence of Mr. W. H. Pearce, missionary, Mirzapore. In performing their several parts the children acquitted themselves in a manner that excited the surprise and satisfaction of all who assembled to witness the gratifying scene, among whom were a considerable number of natives, than whom none seemed to take a greater share of interest, as the little scholars one after another developed their stores of knowledge. In the breast of every well wisher to the cause of female education in this country, the scene was indeed well calculated to produce the strongest emotions of pleasure and encouragement, and we may add too, regret that minds evidently so capable of intellectual and moral improvement should have been so long and culpably neglected. Such neglect, however, we trust will no longer stain the character of those who know the value of intellectual improvement, and have it in their power to impart it to the rising population, which if we do not, the result of this and similar examinations shows, that the guilt will lie at our own door. Once, perhaps, we might have pleaded the impossibility of overcoming the obstacles that were in the way of native female education with some degree of plausibility; but it cannot now be done, since it is evident that, with comparative ease, native female children can be collected in a school-room, can be induced to learn whatever is taught them, and, notwithstanding all their attachment to idolatry, are willing to read any Christian book put into their hands, and even to commit to memory whole catechisms of the Christian religion, the repetition of which did not distress or displease a large company of natives, who listened to the children while reciting them. These certainly are facts that ought to stimulate the friends of this Society to persevering exertion, and strongly recommend the cause of female education to the patronage and support of the public at large.—[*Beng. Hurk.*]

SOURCE OF THE GANGES.

A correspondent in the *India Gazette*, in giving an account of Ramnee, says: "Eighteen years ago I was one of the first party of Europeans who penetrated these snowy regions in search of the source of the Ganges, at the instigation of that good and scientific man, Colonel Colebrooke, then surveyor-general. One of the party got disheartened and was knocked up, being of a weak constitution, and we did not penetrate to Gungoutri, but went to Budree Nauth. On our return

from thence we crossed the stupenduous mountain of Toongassee, which was then covered with snow. In the minutes I took down at the time, I remarked the situation of Ramnee, and observations of the thermometer in the month of June, and this induced me to proceed there for health. During that trip the jealousy of the Gorkuah government would not admit of any intercourse with the natives, and we could gain but little geographical knowledge of the country. The little I had however then seen, gave me a strong inclination to go beyond the snowy mountains into Tartary, and this I effected fourteen years ago, disguised as a Hindoo fakcer, accompanied by that enterprising, enlightened, indefatigable, but unfortunate man, Mr. Moorcroft. We penetrated beyond the snowy range, and went to the sacred lake Mansurowur, and returned again, but were imprisoned for a short time by the Gorkuahs; this trip fully ascertained the source of the Ganges rising within the snowy mountains, and having no connexion with the lake."

ARRACAN FLOTILLA.

Government, we understand, have come to the determination to disband the Flotilla Marines now serving in Arracan, and to reduce the flotilla to eight gun-boats, retaining a regular battalion of infantry, and the Mugh levy, for the defence of the province. The attachment of the Mughis to our dominion, and their detestation of the Burman yoke, are well known, and afford a pledge, that the newly acquired country may be safely trusted to the arms of its natives, now that the power of Ava has been so completely crippled, and her troops entirely banished beyond the Arracan mountains.—[*Cal. John Bull, Jan. 26.*]

DUM DUM THEATRE.

We understand that the alterations in the interior of the Dunn-Dum Theatre are completed, and that the house will be reopened immediately. The chief alteration is the removal of the gallery, which was found a perfect nuisance. The pieces in rehearsal, we are informed, are the *Wags of Windsor* and *Bombastes Furioso*.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz., Jan. 11.*]

STAMP DUTIES.

We understand that the stamp act or regulation, to which we alluded the other day, if registered by the Supreme Court, is to take effect on the 1st of May. Besides receipts, it is said, all promissory notes, bills, &c. are to be stamped, as well as bonds and every other conveying deed, and all proceedings in the Supreme Court. So far as we have been able to learn from the reports in circulation

tion, the last stamp act passed in Great Britain has been taken as a model, in preparing the proposed stamp regulation for this city.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Jan. 17.

CALCUTTA CLUB.

Amongst the proposed rules of the Calcutta United Service Club, to which we some time since gave insertion, there was one which restricted admission to candidates, who should have stood appointed seven years to one or other branch of the service, with certain specified exceptions. We are sorry to learn that some misapprehension prevails with respect to this clause, and that it has been understood to apply exclusively to the officers of his Majesty's and the Hon. Company's military and medical services, and not to members of the civil service. This misconception appears to have arisen from an error in the transcript of the original paper, drawn up at the meeting of the 29th ult., in consequence of which the circumflex in the copies circulated did not comprehend, as it should have done, the words, civil servants, an omission wholly accidental and undesigned. We are happy, therefore, to have it in our power to remove any unfavourable impression which this accident may have induced, to the detriment of the club which it has been proposed to establish, and from which we augur the most advantageous results. The restriction of seven years, the purport of which must be sufficiently obvious, is of general application, except in the cases specified, and affects equally the civil and military branches of the service.—[*Gov. Gaz.* Jan. 1.

STEAM VESSELS.

The *Irrawaddy* steam-vessel was yesterday launched from the dock-yard of Mr. Kyd, the government builder. She is fitted out with two highly finished engines of forty-horse power, by Maudsley, and is expected from the care which has been taken in her construction, and the eminence of the engineer who submitted her plans (Sir R. Seppings) to be of a superior order. We understand she is to be completed with all possible expedition for the service of the government, and that her first destination is Ava. Another vessel, on the same principles, is in a state of considerable forwardness, and will be launched in the course of the ensuing month.—[*Beng. Hurk.*, Jan. 2.

CHANGES IN COUNCIL.

We hear Mr. Harington proceeds shortly to England.—Sir Charles Metcalfe, succeeds him as a member of council; and is expected here about the 15th Feb. Sir Edward Colebrooke, Bart., succeeds Sir Charles at Delhi.—[*Cal. John Bull*.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

His lordship crossed the Jumna on the morning of the 8th Jan. under a salute of nineteen guns from the Fort of Agra, and was received by Brigadier Richards at the head of the troops of the station, with usual military honours. His lordship then proceeded with Lady Amherst and family to the residence of Mr. Saunders, collector of government customs, by whom they were entertained during their visit to Agra. On the following day a levee and drawing-room were held by the Right Hon. the Governor-General and Lady Amherst. On the 12th, the Governor General held a formal durbar in his tents, for the purpose of giving audience to the chiefs and deputies from Malwa, who had proceeded to Agra to wait upon his lordship, under the conduct of Capt. Borthwick. The following parties were introduced in succession to the Governor General, and received according to their rank: 1st. a mission from the Maharaja Mulhar Rao Holkar, composed of Apajee Bhoolia, his highness's nephew, and some of the principal officers of the state; 2d. a mission from the Powar of Dhar; 3d. the chief of Dewass; 4th. the Raja of Rutlain, chief of the Rathore Rajpoots in Malwa, and Raja of Sillana, of the same family; 5th. a mission from the chief of Seetamow. The same chiefs received their audience of leave on the 16th Jan., and were dismissed with the usual presents.

A complimentary mission from his highness Dowlut Rao Sindia reached Agra on the 12th, accompanied by Major Stewart, Resident at Gwalior, and the gentlemen of the residency. The principal person deputed on this occasion to the Governor General's presence, was Hindoo Rao, the brother-in-law of the Maharaja, and the chief next in rank to himself in the state. The mission was introduced to his lordship on the following day, and received with the highest honours. After this ceremony was completed his lordship held a general durbar, at which the Raja of Moorsau Koonwur, Pituniber Sing, zemindar of Aun; Thakoor Ale Murdan Khan, zemindar of Chittairce, and several other respectable landholders and native gentlemen were presented, and received khelaats.

Her highness the Baeza Blace, the wife of Sindia, having sent a deputation of eight Mahratta ladies to wait upon Lady Amherst, appropriate arrangements were made for their reception by her ladyship, at Mr. Saunders's house, on the evening of the 15th.

On the evening of the 17th the Right Hon. Lord and Lady Amherst, with their family and the gentlemen of the suite, went in state to Hindoo Rao's tents, pitched on the sands of the Jumna, to partake of an entertainment sent by the Maharaja

raja Dowlat Rao Sindia. His lordship was met half way by Hindoo Rao and conducted with the utmost respect and honour to the enclosure prepared for the interview, which had been fitted up in a commodious and handsome style. The costly presents sent by Sindia for his lordship and the gentlemen of the suite, were delivered on this occasion. The area fronting the tents was finely illuminated, and as the party retired, a grand and imposing display of fireworks was exhibited on the bank of the river. The following day the mission received their audience of leave, when presents were conferred on Hindoo Rao and about twenty-five of the Mahratta sirdars who accompanied him.

In return for the attention paid to the Governor-General by Sindia in the above mission, we understand it was his lordship's intention to depute Mr. Stirling to Gwalior, as the bearer of presents, and to convey his lordship's compliments to the Maharaja.

The Governor-General marched from Agra towards Futtehpore, Sikri, and Bhurtpore, on the morning of the 18th January.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

PRISONERS FOR DEBT.

On the 3d February, a deputation of several individuals of the highest respectability waited upon the Right Hon. the vice-President at Government House, to present a petition from the debtors confined in the great gaol of Calcutta. In the petition it is stated that no liberation of prisoners has taken place since 1812, when 100 debtors were liberated, including an European who had been confined eighteen years. This liberation took place under the insolvent act passed in parliament; but upon that law being renewed and made permanent in 1813, its provisions were not made applicable to India. The petition then proceeds to state that amongst the prisoners now in confinement is a native who has been fourteen years in prison, who, had he remained in his native place in the provinces, would have enjoyed the benefit of the insolvent regulations of India; that two of his countrymen have been imprisoned nearly twelve years; another debtor, an Englishman, has been eleven years; and twenty-nine others have been confined from six to nine years; "all equally without hope of release but by the intervention of the law, or of death—the latter *avowedly* the only limitation of the vengeance of some of the creditors." The petitioners think that the total oblivion of the debtor in India in the permanent act of 1813 must have arisen from the assurance that some anterior act had provided for his protection; and they submit whether the act 39 and 40 Geo. III. (clause 23d) does not ex-

pressly contemplate their condition. The petition is signed by twenty European and Christian prisoners, whose dates of confinement are from March 1816 to January 1827, and 101 Hindoo and Musulman prisoners, whose dates of confinement are from Sept. 1813 to the same date.

A declaration, signed by three magistrates of Calcutta, and a long list of merchants and agents of the first respectability, wealthy natives, &c. accompanies the petition. The declaration states the conviction of the subscribers that the extension of the spirit of the insolvent law will be beneficial to all classes of the people of Calcutta.

His lordship, in reply to the deputation, said that he should take an immediate occasion of placing the petition before the council, with his strong recommendation of their early consideration of its prayer; that he felt the deepest interest in the petition, and should afford it his warmest support.

MR. ADAM'S PICTURE.

We are glad to hear that Sir Thomas Lawrence has undertaken to finish the picture of the late Mr. Adam, which it was once expected would have been executed by Mr. Chinnery. A mural tablet to the memory of this truly excellent and upright public servant is also preparing by Westmacott.—[*John Bull*, Feb. 5.]

HINDOO COLLEGE.

The half-yearly examination of the students of the Hindoo college and the distribution of prizes took place on Saturday the 27th Jan. at the college in the presence of the Hon. J. Harington, the Hon. W. B. Bayley, Mr. Lushington, and a numerous assemblage of highly respectable native gentlemen. The students went through their several exercises in a manner highly creditable to themselves and to the masters of the institution, and the scene altogether was calculated to call into action the best feelings of the heart. The Hindoo college is an example, and a very striking one, how much the energy and persevering industry of even one individual may effect, when directed to the objects of native education, under all the discouraging circumstances which in India cool the ardour of benevolence, however highly excited at the outset of such labours. It would not be easy duly to appreciate the value of the services rendered to this college by the learned secretary to the Committee of Public Instruction, and by the gentlemen who compose that committee. They are best seen in the rising and flourishing state of the institution; and we cannot doubt that the native gentlemen, who appeared on Saturday to take so lively and animated an interest

interest in what was going forward, will second to the utmost of their power, exertions which so unambiguously and so strenuously aim at raising their youth higher and higher in the scale of civilization and useful and ornamental learning. —[*Cal. John Bull*, Jan. 30.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIVES IN REGARD TO PAPER MONEY.

In the 35th number of the *Martanda*, under the head of 'Marwari Saraffs,' there was published a detailed account of their intention of not receiving any bank notes except those of the Bengal Bank, and likewise the great anxiety that was thereby raised among other Saraffs besides the Marwari. The Marwari Saraffs have now unanimously resolved, that they will gradually dispose of all the bank notes they have in their possession by the first lunation of Chaitra in the Samvatsara year 1884, or the 27th of March 1827, and then altogether abstain from receiving bank notes. For this reason, on Tuesday, the third day of lunation in Magh, or the 30th of January, at about five o'clock in the evening, the Gomashtas of the Saraffs, exclusive of the Marwari, according to their ancient usage, assembled together at the house No. 12, at Pagahyapatry, in Barabazar, belonging to Shah Gopaldoss and Baboo Manohurdoss. The particular cause why this committee took place is as follows:—Previous to any debate on the subject of bank notes, and about twelve days before the assembly of the committee, Baboo Bansidhur wrote a letter to Baboo Madhuridoss to this effect: 'At present there is always some confusion about bank notes; what is now advisable in our dealings (about them)?' In answer to which Baboo Madhuridoss wrote to him that they had better consult together how to proceed. Two days after this, when some money was sent to the house of Shah Gopaldoss and Baboo Madhuridoss, from the house of Devidoss and Balmakund, Baboo Madhuridoss refused to take the notes of the Calcutta Bank that were part of it; and subsequently the committee was convened. In this committee Madhuridoss first observed, 'What should be advisable in this confused state of the bank notes, but that either the Bengal Bank notes be current, or ready money?' Bansidhur then said, 'You wrote that you would take our advice in what to do; but previous to it you first sent back the notes given by myself. What shall I say to it? Whatever path you may choose I will follow.' Baboo Motiebund declared 'the currency of ready money (alone) is the best; but then you must have patience, as precipitancy is not good.' Upon this Baboo Govindachund returned, 'Right. But as these notes are in wide circulation, our proceeding re-

quires mature consideration, that some poor men may not be involved in utter ruin, in consequence of our deliberations.' Much debate took place, till at last it was unanimously agreed, that they should first dispose of the notes they have, and then resolve upon some final measure. According to the tenour of the observations of the Gomashtas of Shah Gopaldoss and Babu Manohurdoss, it may be inferred that they are of opinion that as they have no hundis to pay, which they cannot discharge without receiving notes, they are not much concerned in the matter; but those whose business is likely to be at a stand (in case the notes be not generally received, as proposed), may be alarmed at their exclusion.

The committee continued till eleven o'clock at night; the Marwari Saraffs were invited, but declined to attend it, adding, that they would hold another committee among themselves, and then join the rest. [*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Feb. 8.*]

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Jan. 24. *Sophia*, Barclay, from London.—*Feb. 2. Cumbrian*, Blyth, from London and Madras.—11. *Louisa*, Mackay, from Leith.—17. *Ceylon*, Davison, from London and Ceylon; and *Africa*, Skelton, from Newcastle.

Departures from Saugor.

Feb. 6. *Lord Lynloch*, Beadle, for London.—8. *Symmetry*, Smith; *Reaper*, Broad; and *Ganges*, all for London.—9. *Juliana*, Innes, for London; *Sarah*, Miller, for ditto; *Perserverance*, Brown, for Liverpool; and *Phœnix*, Betts, for Gibraltar.—10. *Cambridge*, Barber, for Madras, and *Madras*, Beach, for London.—15. *Edmonstone*, Morgan, for Bombay, and *Atlas*, Hunt, for Madras and London.—21. *Victory*, Farquharson, for Madras.—24. *Cornwall*, Younghusband, and *Rose*, Marquis, both for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- Dec. 19. At Futtchgurh, the lady of R. Stewart, Esq. jun., of a son.
Jan. 4. At Berhampore, the lady of Dr. Pearce, 37th N.I., of a son.
14. At Meerut, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Vincent, 10th Lancers, of a son.
— At Chowringhee, the lady of James Pattie, Esq., of a daughter.
17. The lady of G. Gregory, Esq., of a son.
18. At Burrissaul, the lady of Major W. Dunlop, 52d N.I., of a son.
19. At Seyndpore, near Benares, the lady of R. Limond, Esq., superintending surg., of a daughter.
— The lady of A. Agabeg, Esq., of a son.
20. The lady of Capt. Crisp, Madras establishment, of a daughter.
— At Jectwanpore, Tirhoot, Mrs. T. Shearman, of a son.
22. At Dinagepore, the lady of R. Creighton, Esq., of a son.
— Mrs. M. Gasper, of a daughter.
23. At Malda, the lady of J. W. Grant, Esq., of a son.
24. At Cossitollah, Mrs. F. C. Rigordy, of a son.
27. Mrs. H. A. Elliott, of a daughter.
— Mrs. P. Rodriguez, of a son.
28. The lady of G. E. Hudson, Esq., attorney at law, of a daughter.
30. Mrs. J. B. Cornelius, of a daughter.
Feb. 2. At Goaljunge, near Berhampore, the lady of R. Morrell, Esq., of a son.

- Feb. 2. At Ballgunge, the lady of Chas. Paton, Esq., of a daughter.
 3. The lady of R. M. Ronald, Esq., attorney at law, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- Jan. 1. At Bankipore, Mr. T. Medley to Miss Peggy Palmer.
 2. At Chittagong, Capt. B. S. Vaz, commander of the brig *F. Millet*, to Thereza, relict of the late Capt. T. A. D'Coil, of the same place.
 10. Alex. K. Lindesay, Esq., assist. surg. 4th Extra Regt., to Miss Mary Kelfr.
 12. At the Cathedral, George Hornett, Esq., to Miss Della Turnbull.
 15. At Agra, H. T. Stewart, Esq., of Mirzapore, to Mary Margaret, eldest daughter of N. Mahon, Esq., of Castle Troy, Limerick, Ireland.
 27. Mr. G. A. Popham to Miss Louisa Lemousin.
 — Mr. W. Stewart to Miss M. A. Falconer.
 — Mr. T. S. Colliard to Mrs. E. F. Everson.
 Feb. 1. Mr. W. Duff, of Tirhoot, indigo planter, to Miss S. F. Bason.

DEATHS.

- Jan. 1. At sea, on the passage from Madras to Calcutta, Mr. Samuel Ritchie, late chief officer of the ship *Castle Forbes*.
 21. At Cuttack, W. Forrester, Esq., judge and magistrate of that district, aged 40.
 23. Mrs. Maria Faria, wife of the late Mr. D. Faria, aged 25.
 24. D. Thomson, Esq., aged 72.
 28. J. L. Brenon, Esq., assist. surgeon, aged 38.

Madras.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FETE AT VIZIANAGRAM.

On the 13th and 14th December his Highness Meerjah Rajah tree Poosapauty Narrain Guzzeputtayrauze Maha Rauzo Bahadar Moonaha Sultan, the rajah of Vizianagram (in the northern circars), gave a grand fête at his palace to the European ladies and gentlemen of that cantonment and of the neighbouring stations. The entertainment consisted of a breakfast, dinner, and supper, on each day, as well as a dance on the two evenings. The occasion of the party was the birth of a son, in the person of Viziam Ram Rause, his highness's heir, and was given with a splendour suited to the exalted rank of the rajah and his son.

The entertainments of each day were ushered in by royal salutes at sun-rise. Major General Nicolls was prevented from attending at dinner on the first day, a circumstance much regretted by the rajah. The rajah was seated on an ivory chair of state, elegantly decorated, behind the president, with his dewan at his side, and when the company had drank the health of the young prince, his highness returned his thanks for the honour conferred upon him and his son in terms which would have done no discredit to any Englishman of rank. The rajah particularly dwelt upon the feeling of comfort and security the native princes and zemindars enjoyed under the benign government of the East-India Company, and expressed his own particular sense of respect for the Governor of Madras, and the other mem-

bers of the government. His highness's knowledge of English enabled him to express himself eloquently and feelingly in that language.

On the second evening, Mrs. Nicolls and all the other ladies were conducted by the rajah to the apartments of the ranee, which were brilliantly illuminated. Her highness, who was richly dressed and covered with jewels, is represented as very handsome in her person, and possessing great dignity and elegance of manner. She received the company with great self-possession, and maintained an animated conversation through the medium of his highness the rajah's interpretation. The young rajah is a fine child, and remarkably fair.—[*Mad. Gov. Gaz.*]

SHIPPING.

Departures.

- Jan. 30. *Lady Raffles*, Coxwell, and *Abberton*, Percival, both for London.

BIRTHS.

- Jan. 25. Mrs. Mackintyre, of a son.
 29. The lady of Lieut. C. Farrer, 14th N.I., of a son.
 30. The lady of W. R. Smyth, Esq., of a daughter.

Bombay.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

MAJOR-GENERAL WILSON.

Bombay Castle, Dec. 8, 1826.—Major-Gen. S. Wilson, commanding the Presidency division of the army, is permitted to return to Europe agreeably to the regulations, on the free-trader *Upton Castle*.

The Governor in Council cannot permit the Major-General to proceed to England without assuring him that he carries with him the best wishes of this government, and its acknowledgments of his zealous and meritorious conduct, during the long period of forty-six years which have been passed in service of the Hon. Company, and often in situations of great importance and responsibility.

COMMAND ALLOWANCES.

Bombay Castle, Jan. 4, 1827.—The Hon. the Governor in Council deems it expedient to direct that the senior officer actually present and doing duty with any part of his corps, whether cavalry or infantry, or horse or foot artillery, shall be considered as commanding, and entitled to draw the allowance attached to such command, whatever may be the strength of the detail or detachment with which he may be employed, and without reference to the presence or absence of the regimental staff, who are not to be removed without

without authority from the commander-in-chief.

As the Hon. the Governor in Council considers it improper that any officer serving regimentally should, under any circumstances, be entitled to higher personal allowances (on account of regimental duties) than those which are attached to the command of his corps, it is directed that when an adjutant or quarter-master may become senior officer, and entitled to the command allowances, he shall temporarily transfer his regimental staff duties to the next senior, or other officer who may be regimentally present with the corps at the same station; but if it should happen that no other officer is available, the personal staff allowances are not to be drawn in addition to the command allowances by the same officer; he is, however, permitted, in such cases, to receive the office allowances of his staff appointment, in order to defray the charges of writers and stationery incidental to the vacant staff office.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Dec. 22, 1826.—Capt. S. Powell, brigade major to Malwah field force, to be deputy adj. general of army, with official rank of major, v. Alchison promoted in department.

Capt. R. Rose, 2d regt. L.C., to be a brigade major to forces, v. Powell.

Dec. 23.—15th N.I. Ens. G. A. Hughes to be lieutenant, v. Dawes dec.

23d N.I. Ens. C. II. Browne to be lieutenant, v. Gauthier dismissed.

15th N.I. Lieutenant. W. Ward to be adj., v. Dawes dec.

16th N.I. Lieutenant. C. Hunter to be adj.

1st *Ketra* Bat. Lieutenant. H. Hopkins, 25th N.I., to be adj., v. Ward. Lieutenant. A. Woodburn, 25th N.I., to be quartermaster and interpreter in Hindostanee, v. Hunter.

25th N.I. Lieutenant. H. Spencer to be adj., v. McMahon prom.

Jan. 2.—Sen. Surg. R. Eckford to be superintend. surg. to fill vacancy on establishment occasioned by embarkation of Superintend. Surg. G. Ogilvy for Europe.

Mr. W. J. B. Knipe admitted to inf., and promoted to ensign.

25th N.I. Lieutenant. B. McMahon to be capt., and Ens. G. Clarkson to be lieutenant, in suc. to Seely dec.

Lieutenant. T. Knox, H.M.'s 2d Foot, to be an aide-de-camp to his Exc. the Commander-in-chief.

Jan. 5.—Mr. R. F. Riddell admitted an assistant surg. on establishment.

Jan. 12.—Capt. David Wilson, 7th N.I., to be resident in Persian Gulf, v. Stannus permitted to return to Europe.

Feb. 3.—*Cadets admitted.* Mr. G. S. Ravenscroft to cav., and promoted to cornet; Mr. O. Halpin to inf., and promoted to ensign.

Feb. 7.—11th N.I. Ens. A. A. Drummond to be lieutenant, v. Macdonell dec.; date 28th Jan.

Lieutenant. Billamore relieved from duty with Survey of Bombay and Salsette. Lieutenant. Hart to remain with Survey until 1st March.

MARINE PROMOTIONS.

Jan. 8.—2d Lieutenant. J. H. Rowband to be a 1st lieutenant, v. Broadhead dec.

Sen. Midshipman C. R. Richardson to be a 2d lieutenant, v. Rowband prom.

FURLOUGHS.

To *Europe*.—Dec. 23. Capt. C. Payne, 16th N.I., for health.—28. Capt. N. Hunter, Madras Horse Artillery, for health.—30. Lieutenant. Col. Com. M. Kennedy, 15th N.I.,—Superintendent. Surg. V. C. Kenball.—Surg. D. C. Bell, 18th N.I.—Jan. 2. Lieutenant. J. Thomas, 16th N.I., on private affairs.—4. Lieutenant. E. R. Prother, of artillery, for health.—Lieutenant. W. Campbell, 18th N.I., for health.—10. Lieutenant. Col. Com. E. W. Shuldham, 25th N.I.—Feb. 7. Lieutenant. R. Phillips, 1st or Gr. N.I., for health.

SEIZURE OF A FRENCH BRIG.

We have been given to understand on good authority, that the principal collector in Canara has seized the brig *L'Espérance* under English colours, bound to this port, supposed to be French property.

We are further informed that she is coming up to Bombay in charge of Lieutenant. Macdonald, master attendant at Mangalore, for the purpose of being delivered over to his Majesty's Court of Vice-Admiralty for adjudication.

In the absence of more information upon the subject, we can only conjecture that the commander of the vessel encountered the risk he did in order to avoid the port duties commonly levied on foreign vessels: a measure, however, of rather a hazardous nature, considering the value of the property at stake.—[*Bombay Cour.* Feb. 14.]

BIRTHS, MARRIAGE, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Feb. 3. At Baroda, the lady of Capt. Roe, assistant quartermaster general, of a daughter.

4. At Bhowdy, the lady of Maj. Roome, of a daughter.

7. The lady of John Wedderburn, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

Jan. 28. At Poonah, Lieutenant. C. Hunter, 16th N.I., to Anne Elizabeth, third daughter of T. Morris, Esq., surveyor general of customs, London.

DEATHS.

Jan. 31. At Poonah, Amelia, daughter of Lieutenant. Col. Taylor, 25th N.I.

Feb. 8. Mr. F. R. G. B. Kempt, son of the late Capt. F. J. Kempt, Royal Navy.

10. Catherine Smith, wife of Chas. Grant, Esq., in her 35th year.

Ceylon.

DEATH.

Jan. 20. At Hondelle, Lieutenant. G. Courtney, H.M.'s 97th regt.

Netherlands India.

JAVA.

The greatest jealousy is represented to prevail as to the transmission of intelligence of the real state of affairs in Java. This is very absurd, as the Dutch must know that whatever restraint they may succeed

succeed in putting on residents, they cannot prevent the communication of intelligence by those who leave the island, and the very difficulty thrown in the way of communication is likely to be the cause of the grossest exaggerations. Trade is said to have reached the lowest possible limit of depression. The new commercial company, are endeavouring to monopolize what little there is, in which, with the assistance of the government, they will probably succeed, though it may be reasonably doubted whether they will profit by the ruin of their rivals. All foreign merchants are anxious to leave the island, and only remain with the view of collecting their property. A Chinese merchant, reputed to be very rich, lately applied for permission to depart: which was only granted on condition of paying thirty per cent. on every thing he took with him. The miserable state to which monopoly and oppression have reduced the once flourishing island of Java is apparent; every letter agrees as to the impossibility of the Dutch recovering their dominion without great reinforcements from Europe, and a total change in their system of government. — [*Ben. Hurk. Jan. 10.*]

The War.—Accounts have been received at Brussels from Batavia to the 21st of February. Diepo Negoro was in the dessa of Banjor-Erip, between Kalie Dyning and Djocjocarta, where he had assembled, besides the princes and other chiefs of the insurgents, a force of 1,200 men, among whom are 300 Boelkios; his projects are not known. On the 28th of January an expedition sent from Souracarta made a general attack on the rebels, who were posted from Bojuelalie to Dilango, in order to prevent, as far as possible, those hostile bands from ravaging the districts of Pudjang. According to the reports of General de Kock, this expedition had, in several respects, attained its object. The Dutch troops were perfectly seconded by the native auxiliaries of Singosarie, Gelassan, Banjoe, Dono, Sangoon, Klatted, and those of Mangko Negoro. Two small cannon, which the enemy captured two days before, in the retreat of the Prince of Solo, were recovered by the Dutch troops. On the 14th of February, Major Vanderigk drove 500 rebels from the dessa of Karang Kopeck, which he burnt.

SUMATRA.

Padang.—Among the happy fruits of the restoration of the Dutch dominion in the archipelago, has been the suppression of the schools which Sir Stamford Raffles had established at Padang for the education of the natives. These, it is said, the present governor has shut up, pointing to the state of affairs in Java, and the leading on of the insurgents by the English protégé

“as proofs that the progress of education and the safety and permanence of the Dutch rule are incompatible!” — [*Cal. John Bull, Dec. 16.*]

Persia.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

General Paskevitch, who has succeeded General Yermoloff as Governor-general of Georgia, directed the advance of a body of troops under Gen. Benkendorff towards Erivan, there to establish themselves and blockade the fortress. The troops, consisting of about 6,000 men, passed Mounts Akzbrick and Bozobdal on the 6th April, and proceeded towards Echmiadzin, which they occupied without resistance. Leaving a small force at Echmiadzin, Gen. Benkendorff marched on the 16th April to reconnoitre Sardar Abad, a new Persian fortress, situated twenty wersts from Echmiadzin, on the left of the road of Talyne. At the same time he detached three companies of the regiment of Schirvan towards Erivan, with a view to draw off the attention of the enemy, and particularly to fatigue the Kurdish cavalry, which occupied the road of Sardar Abad. Gen. Benkendorff met with the Kurds, to the number of 10,000 horse, commanded by Hassan Khan, a famous partisan, brother to the Serdar of Erivan. The troops, following the example set them by their officers, rushed upon the enemy with extraordinary intrepidity. In a moment the Kurdish cavalry was put to flight, and pursued for seven wersts with much loss. Among the killed are found the nephew of Hussein, Aga of Kurdistan; among the prisoners is Ismael, Khan of Arderum, one of the confidential officers of the Serdar. The enemy lost eighty horsemen; the Russian loss was very inconsiderable.

On the same day, Gen. Benkendorff having halted three wersts from Sardar Abad, advanced with five companies and four pieces of cannon towards that fortress, which he approached within musket shot, and opened a fire with shells, which damaged several buildings in the place, and caused great confusion. After having reconnoitred Sardar Abad, Gen. Benkendorff returned the following day to Echmiadzin.

On the 5th May the General advanced from Echmiadzin, crossed the Zanga, and advanced to Erivan; after some successful skirmishes with the troops under Hassan Khan, the Russian papers state as follows: “The fortress of Erivan is provisioned for a year, and defended by a strong garrison. The heavy artillery cannot arrive before the middle of June, so that there is no appearance that the fortress can be seriously bombarded before that time. In a fortnight the remainder of the Russian army will

will also have passed the frontier to attack the Persians, who are said to be concentrating their force in Adherbijan. While the army is engaged on this point, Gen. Benkendorff will continue his operations against Erivan and Sardar Abad.* The heat and the difficulty of procuring provisions will be the worst enemies they will have to contend with during the war. Against the latter difficulty they depend on the resources of the province of Karls, and the good understanding which prevails between them and the Pacha of that province. A disorder, ascribed to the want of forage and hard duty, has appeared among the cattle belonging to the baggage, &c.; if its ravages are not speedily checked, the consequences may be very injurious, because almost all the oxen in Georgia are employed by the army; every thing announces, in short, that the period of the great political events which this war may occasion in this country is approaching."

China.

CHINESE INTELLIGENCE.

Canton, October 3, 1826.—The sixty-ninth number of the *Peking Gazette* has been received; and some extracts of imperial edicts from later numbers up to the 8th day of the 7th moon.

In the island of Formosa there has been an insurrection of the inhabitants, or an inroad of the natives, for the final suppression or repelling of which the local officers are rewarded by his Majesty.

October 18, 1826.—Extracts from the *Peking Gazette* have been some days in Canton, containing papers issued by the Emperor about fifty days anterior to the date of this. From this it appears that a serious rebellion has broken out in Western Tartary. The leader, Chang Kih Urb, is represented as a Mahomedan, and the head of certain descendants of a former rebel. He has been joined by Tartars called in Chinese Poo-loo-tih, and by the white-capped Mahomedans about Kashgar. According to Chinese maps, in the Company's library here, the seat of the rebellion lies in long. east 78, lat. N. 40, and the surrounding territory, which the *Peking Gazette* represent as desert and thinly inhabited. However, the official documents from his Majesty indicate considerable anxiety on the subject. He has ordered seventy officers of reputation to appear before him, that he may select thirty to proceed with the greatest expedition to the seat of war. From the north-west provinces of Shense and Kan suh he has ordered 20,000 men to advance; and even from Manchow Tartary troops are commanded to proceed to the westward. He has given absolute

power over the army to Chang-ling, the commander-in-chief at Ele, who, about ten years ago was governor of Canton. Two general officers are united with him as a council; but the imperial seal is given to him, which authorizes him to act individually and independently, in all matters, whether of life or death, or great or small. Kan suh and Shantung provinces are ordered to supply provisions, &c. for the army in advance against the Mahomedan rebels. His Majesty commands an union of clemency and severity. The arch rebel himself, if he will submit, is promised life; whilst to every human being opposing the imperial forces, total extermination is threatened, and the army instructed to inflict it. Two officers of rank in the imperial army have already fallen, and funeral honours have been decreed. From the spirited arrangements which have been made, and the number of troops brought forward to the scene of action, his Majesty anticipates a speedy and glorious result. The people of Canton consider the late disturbances in Formosa as trivial, but the Tartar rebellion as a serious national affair.

October 24, 1826.—The paper of to-day states that his Excellency the Governor of Canton has received an express from the Board of Revenue at Peking, informing him that it is not necessary to forward to court the sums arising from customs and duties which happened to be in the provincial treasury. The date of despatch does not appear, nor is assigned for countermanding a former order. Whether it indicates less apprehension for the Mahomedan rebellion under Chun-kih-urh, or arises from anxiety about the insurrection in Formosa, at the opposite extremity of the empire, is not easy to determine.

The Deputy Governor of Fuh-keen province, not having given satisfaction respecting Formosa, the Deputy Governor of Shantung is directed to proceed thither immediately, with full powers to put in requisition the troops that may be necessary, under certain limitations as to the rank of officers who shall be under his command.

October 27, 1826.—His Excellency the Governor has issued, throughout the two provinces under his authority, proclamations to the following purport:—That since it is universally known in every province of the empire where he has served, and especially in Canton, where he was deputy governor, his practice is to attend to all affairs, whether great or small, in his own proper person, and not to depute them to the management of others, and since his heart and hands are pure from bribes, the friends he selects are honest men; and all soothsayers, diviners, and lounging artists are banished from his presence; he informs the public, all

all persons who may pretend to have access to him, and influence with him, are impostors. Instead of the people fearing such persons, and suffering themselves to be intimidated and defrauded, he desires that they will seize the pretenders and bring them to justice. It is reported outside that the Governor requires, for the immediate supply of the grand army now in the field, and in motion against the rebel Ching-kih-urh, from

Taels.

The Hong Merchants 600,000

The Salt Merchants..... 400,000

The Country Gentlemen... 200,000

Whether his Majesty will accept of this "benevolence" or not is as yet unknown. The daily expense of the army is said to be 70,000 taels.

October 30.—The *Peking Gazette* mentions a thousand families of wandering Tartars unprovided for, anterior to the breaking out of the rebellion. It is reported that one of the generals who led forth the troops against the rebels, has with his division either totally perished or been taken by the enemy, as he has not been heard of since.

We are authorized to say that the assertion reported in these straits, that Dr. Morrison on board the *Orwell* "preached" to the mutineers and so made them worse, and that he called the officers "no Christians," is untrue. Every one on board the *Orwell* at that time, knows that, at the request of the Captain, Dr. Morrison spoke to the men, warned them of the consequences of what they were doing, and persuaded them to return to their duty; and that his doing so induced the men to separate, and proceed up the rigging to do the work which had been neglected five or six hours. So far from interfering, he remained with his family in his cabin till requested to come out to a conference by the Captain, when it was proposed to fire upon them: then he went among the mutineers and reasoned with them, and his friends have reason to believe that he was the means of preventing the loss of lives on that occasion.—[*Malacca Observer*.

DEATHS.

Jan. 18. At Macao, Catherine, wife of W. H. C. Plowden, Esq., and daughter of the late Wm. Harding, Esq., of Baraset, Stratford-on-Avon.
 Late. At Canton, Poonqua, one of the Hong merchants.

Madagascar.

Accounts from this island state that war rages with great fury amongst the native chiefs. King Radama had marched an army of 15,000 men against Dandi, one of the most powerful chiefs on the island, with orders to exterminate the whole of his

people. Great part of the island had submitted to Radama, and were paying him tribute; but the frequent insurrections caused great inconvenience to merchants trading there.—[*London Paper*.

A letter from the Isle of France says: "At the instigation of M. Blanquart, ex-general, aid-de-camp to King Murat, who is now established in the Isle of France as a merchant, Radama, the most powerful sovereign of Madagascar, has just established a tariff of customs in his whole territory. He has imposed considerable duties on the exportation of rice, salt meat, and oxen, and twenty-five per cent. on all the other productions of his dominions. The houses of Blanquart, Brothers, and Brodelet, of the Isle of France, and the house of Gamin and Son, of the Isle of Bourbon, have farmed these duties. The merchants of the Isles of France and Bourbon, alarmed for the consequences of this measure, have appointed a deputation to go to the King of Madagascar, and to remonstrate with him on this subject. The French governor wished to make an arrangement with the English governor to induce the king to desist from his pretensions, but the English governor refused to take any part in the negotiation."

Australia.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Public Meeting.—On the 26th January a meeting of the free inhabitants of this colony was convened by the sheriff at Sydney, pursuant to requisition, for the purpose of petitioning the King and two Houses of Parliament for trial by jury and a house of assembly. The sheriff took the chair.

Mr. W. C. Wentworth moved the petitions (all three of which are in the same or similar words), and was seconded by Sir John Jamison.

The petition to the House of Commons is given in the Sydney papers; it is of very great length, and purports to be from "the gentry, merchants, landholders, yeomen, traders and other free inhabitants" of New South Wales. The following are some passages: "While they gratefully acknowledge that the most substantial advantages have accrued to them from the purer and more efficient dispensation of justice which has prevailed (since the Act 4 Geo. IV.), from the partial introduction of trial by jury, and above all from the unrestricted liberty of the press, which has been the means of detecting and preventing numberless abuses and oppressions, the natural effect of that arbitrary system of government which was necessarily coeval with the formation of the

the colony. They at the same time feel it a duty to themselves humbly to represent to your honourable house, that whatever may have been their past incompetency to be admitted to the full benefits of the British constitution, the time has at length arrived when they humbly hope to be liberated from all disfranchisements, to be placed on the same footing as all other his Majesty's plantations, settled by British subjects, and together with the liberty of the press, which they already enjoy, to be reinvested with those other imprescriptible rights of Englishmen, trial by jury, and taxation by representation.

"That the present competency of your humble petitioners for that other great privilege of the British Constitution, taxation by representation, will be obvious, from a reference to their population, income, and revenue. That the entire population of the colony, as far as your humble petitioners can collect, amounts to about 55,000 souls, 35,000 of whom are free, and the rest convicts—the far greater part of whom have been assigned by the Governors of the colony for the time being, to your humble petitioners, and are supported by their free of all expense to the mother country. That the gross annual produce of the land and labour of the colony, including the produce of the coal mines and fisheries, cannot be estimated at less than £800,000. That of this sum about £250,000 per annum constitutes the exportable income of your humble petitioners, and consists of rude produce, or of bills on his Majesty's Treasury, and other bills, for which such produce is exchanged in this colony. That the revenue of the colony amounts yearly to upwards of £60,000. That this enormous sum has hitherto been levied on your humble petitioners by authority of Parliament and otherwise, without their consent, contrary to Magna Charta. That it is great beyond all former precedent, being little short of the whole amount of taxes raised in the whole of British America in the year 1777, when the various governments and states into which it was distributed comprised a population of 300,000 of souls. That it presses most grievously on every branch of the domestic industry of your humble petitioners, and that notwithstanding its intolerable weight, fresh devices have been in agitation, and they fear are not yet abandoned, to increase its amount, to the further depression and derangement of their internal prosperity, without any local necessity to justify such an increase; and, in short, with no other view than to compel your humble petitioners to contribute still more largely than they do at present towards the general expenditure of the empire."

Sir James Brisbane. — A government

order for the funeral of the late Sir James Brisbane thus speaks of this respected officer.

"His Excellency the Governor announces with feelings of deep and unfeigned regret the death of Commodore Sir James Brisbane, which took place this morning (Dec. 19) at ten o'clock. This event, which has deprived his country of a most distinguished officer, and the service and society in which he lived of an example deserving their imitation, will be deeply and sincerely lamented. His health had suffered from his exertions in conducting the naval operations at Rangoon. When he arrived here his constitution was evidently in a state of great exhaustion, and he continued to decline until the moment of his final dissolution. The death of Commodore Sir James Brisbane will be identified with an event which forms an epoch in the annals of the colony—the arrival of the first line-of-battle ship (*the Warspite*), and will be handed down with it, as a record, to posterity."

Melville Island.—The settlement formed about three years since at Melville Island (in the gulf of Carpentaria), with a view to open a commercial intercourse with the Malays, has completely failed. The settlers, during two years and a half, had never seen one Malay; nor had they been able, from the hostility of the natives, to penetrate more than twenty miles into the interior of the island, the natives being in the most savage state of barbarism, and all attempts to conciliate them proving abortive.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

The Natives.—A gentleman in the interior writes to his friend in town, that the natives are much worse than the late banditti of bush-rangers; and that black Tom, and those with him, declare that they will murder every white man that they fall in with. There are various opinions as to the cause of these attacks by the aborigines.—That the Van Diemen's Land Company, by settling on their very extensive grants on the north-western part of the island, which has long been a haunt for the black tribes, have drove them upon the settled districts; and that the recent execution of black Tom and Dick has kindled their animosity against the whites, are amongst the most prevalent. The Legislative Council have been sitting during the whole of the week, we understand, respecting the violence of the natives.—*Col. Times, Dec. 1.*

We have been informed that the work of death has commenced among the aboriginal natives, and that the settlers and stock-keepers are determined to annihilate every black who may act hostilely.—*Ibid.*

DEBATE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

East-India House, June 20.

A Quarterly General Court of Proprietors of East-India Stock was this day held at the Company's House, in Leadenhall-street.

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

The *Chairman* (the Hon. Hugh Lindsay) acquainted the court, that certain papers which had been presented to Parliament since the last General Court, were submitted to the proprietors, agreeably to cap. 1, sec. 4 of the by-laws.

They consisted of resolutions of the Court of Directors for granting any salary, pension, or annuity, under the 53d Geo. III, cap. 155, sec. 93.—copies and extracts of papers relative to the burning of widows in India, since the year 1823, and all communications received on that subject recently.

SUPERANNUATIONS.

The *Chairman* next informed the court, that a list of superannuations granted since their last meeting was laid before the proprietors, agreeably to the 19th sec. 6th cap. of by-laws.

The list only contained the name of George Parditer, surveyor of private-trade, £100 per annum. His salary and allowed emoluments amounted to £150 a-year, and the period of his service authorized the directors to grant him two-thirds.

Mr. R. Jackson inquired whether the Act of Parliament, allowing the grant of pensions of this nature, was confined in its operation to regular servants, or whether it could be extended to extra clerks? Had persons of this latter description a right to claim under the act?

The *Chairman*.—"There are no extra-clerks in this list; but we are in the habit of granting pensions to extra-clerks for length of service."

MR. BOSANQUET.

The *Chairman*.—"I am to acquaint the court, that a letter has been received from Jacob Bosanquet, Esq., expressive of the gratification which he derived from the unanimous resolution agreed to at the last general court, on the occasion of his retirement from the direction."

The letter of Mr. Bosanquet was then read, as follows:—

"Broxbournebury, 2d April 1837.

"My dear Sir:—I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 30th ultimo, transmitting me a copy of the unanimous resolution which the general court have been pleased to adopt regarding me.

"May I be permitted to intreat the continuance of your personal kindness towards me, by conveying to the Court of Proprietors, at the first and proper opportunity, the assurance of those

indelible sentiments of gratitude with which I am impressed by so honourable and valuable a mark of their approbation, the highest reward which I could possibly receive.

(Signed) "I have, &c.

"JACOB BOSANQUET."
"Sir G. A. Robinson, Bart., Chairman, &c."

BY-LAWS.

The *Chairman*.—"I have to inform the court, that it is ordained that the by-laws shall be read at the first general court after the annual election."

The by-laws were then read short.

HALF-YEAR'S DIVIDEND.

The *Chairman*.—"I am to acquaint the court, that it is appointed at this court to consider of a dividend on the capital stock of the Company, from the 5th of January last to the 5th of July next. The Court of Directors have come to a resolution on the subject, which shall be read."

The resolution of the Court of Directors of the 19th June, recommending a dividend of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the half-year, was then read.

On the motion of the *Chairman*, seconded by the Deputy *Chairman* (J. Pattison, Esq.), it was agreed to.

COMMITTEE OF BY-LAWS.

The *Chairman*.—"I have to propose that the report which has been delivered in from the committee of by-laws be now read."

The report was read accordingly. It stated, that "the committee appointed to inquire into the Company's by-laws have proceeded to discharge their duty, and have agreed to the following report:—That the several by-laws have been duly observed and executed during the last year, and they perceive no necessity for any alteration or addition at the present time."

Mr. Gahagan expressed his sorrow that the committee of by-laws had come to this last resolution; for he was sure that any person looking at the by-laws, and at recent events, must perceive that there was a great deal to amend in them. There was one which peculiarly called for alteration; it referred to the qualification of directors. It was expressly provided for that civil and military officers, anxious for a seat in the direction, must have resided full two years in this country, after having resigned their situations, before they were eligible to become candidates. But the by-law which had reference to maritime servants ran thus: "That any proprietor who shall have been elected a director of this Company within two years after having held any maritime office in the service of the Company, shall" (not be *ipso facto* incapable

incapable of sitting, but)—“be liable to be removed from his office of director.” Now, this was a point well worthy of investigation; and he thought that the ensuing committee of by-laws would do well to turn a little attention to it. Common sense, common morality, and common decency, called for a revival of this law.

Mr. R. Jackson requested to know the names of the gentlemen by whom the report was signed.

They were—Geo. Cumming, P. Heatly, J. H. Tritton, R. Twining, J. Carstairs, Sir J. Shaw, and B. Barnard.

Mr. R. Jackson, in allusion to what had been said by Mr. Gahagan, expressed an opinion, as we understood, that a by-law ought to be framed to meet the exigency of the occasion. Perhaps the best course the hon. proprietor could pursue was, to give notice that if the subject were not regularly taken up he would bring it under the consideration of the court. Those who took a mere bird's-eye view of the by-laws at the end of the year, just before the meeting of the court, if there were such, certainly did not do their duty, which was one that required watchfulness and diligence.

Capt. Maxfield inquired how many of those gentlemen had attended the meetings of the committee? Some of them, he believed, had not been in the East-India House for the last two months.

The Chairman.—“There is no report made to us of the attendance of the gentlemen composing the committee of by-laws. If the gallant officer will ask the committee the question, I dare say they will be able to give a satisfactory answer.”

Dr. Gilchrist had, if he mistook not, formerly said something on this subject. He wished to know how those gentlemen attended, and to ascertain that he proposed that a list of attendance should be kept. If that had been followed up, the hon. Chairman would have been able to give an answer to the question of the hon. proprietor. He understood that one or two of the members did not attend the committee at all; and he should therefore, by and by, propose a new member on the committee. He should waive any farther observation till the proper time came.

Mr. R. Jackson said it could not be expected that the hon. Chairman should state in what numbers the committee of by-laws attended. He (Mr. Jackson) understood that one of the Company's clerks was clerk to the committee of by-laws; and, if the members attended to their duty and the clerk attended to his, the names of the members at each meeting must have been taken down, and the list might be produced.

The Chairman.—“It is competent for the general court to call on the committee

of by-laws to make such a report; but I submit that it would be quite irregular for the Court of Directors to ask for such a document.”

Mr. Wigram apprehended that the committee of by-laws might choose any person they pleased to act as clerk or secretary; but, though they select an officer of the Court of Directors, he did not think the court had any control over that officer with respect to the proceedings of the committee. He thought it right to state this, because the learned proprietor seemed to think otherwise.

The Chairman.—“I am, to acquaint the court, that it is ordained, by cap. 3, sec. 6, of the by-laws, that a committee of fifteen be annually appointed to inspect the by-laws of the Company. I now move,

“That Humphrey Howorth, Esq. be continued member of the committee of by-laws for the year ensuing.”

Dr. Gilchrist said he understood that this gentleman had not attended the committee of by-laws for some time past. If he were misinformed he was not accountable for that circumstance, as he had derived his information from others. He had been told that Mr. Howorth had not attended for a considerable period, and he thought it fair and candid to state the fact. He regretted the hon. proprietor's absence from the committee, because he was a gentleman well known for the liberality of his principles, the soundness of his views, and the justness of his sentiments. He was therefore a great loss to the committee; he believed that sickness and nothing else prevented him from attending. If he were misinformed on this point he should be set right by the chair; if he were well-informed, he should propose another member in Mr. Howorth's place.

Mr. S. Dixon put it to the proprietors whether, when they considered the past services of Mr. Howorth—(Hear!)—whether, when they recollected the whole tenour of his conduct towards the Company (hear!) they could come to the conclusion, that such services and such conduct deserved to be requited by having his name struck out of the list of the committee.—(Hear!)

Mr. Twining—(who had just entered the court.)—“I beg leave to ask, does this discussion relate to Mr. Howorth? I come forward under a very great disadvantage, not having heard the commencement of the business.”

The Chairman.—“I have moved, agreeably to the usual form,

“That Humphrey Howorth, Esq. be continued a member of the committee of by-laws.”

Mr. Twining.—“I should be obliged to the court to inform me on this point; whether,

whether, as a member of the committee of by-laws, it would be perfectly correct for me to make a few observations in the present stage of the business?"

Mr. R. Jackson said his hon. friend was at perfect liberty to address the court. Had his hon. friend been in court sooner, he would, no doubt, have taken an opportunity to state what his conduct had been with respect to the performance of his duties as a member of the committee of by-laws. Such a statement was unnecessary, so far as he (Mr. Jackson) was concerned, for he knew his hon. friend's conduct to be highly meritorious; but an inquiry had been made as to the attendance of the committee of by-laws during the last year; and it was asked what record the court could have recourse to to shew the diligence and utility of their exertions during that time.

The *Chairman*.—"I beg to state for the information of the hon. proprietor that some observations have been made by the learned gent. on the bench above, as to the cause of Mr. Howorth's absence from the committee. The conduct of that much respected individual is well known to, and justly appreciated by the Company, of whose interests he was always the sincere and steady advocate. His merely labouring under sickness is not, in my opinion, a just or fair cause for leaving his name out on the present occasion."—(*Hear!*)

Mr. *Twining*.—"If it be not incorrect, I hope I may be indulged with the attention of the court for a few moments. Had I been in court when Mr. Howorth's name was mentioned, I should have felt it to be my duty to have borne testimony of the opinion entertained by the committee of by-laws of his talents and his assiduity. We have uniformly and sincerely regretted his absence from illness; but we suffered no inconvenience in consequence, because, when any instance occurred where we wanted his opinion, we received it from him in his customary kind and frank manner. I am anxious to bear testimony to the fact, that there is but one opinion entertained by the committee of by-laws with respect to the present chairman. We admire his talents; we have long observed and duly appreciated his devotion to business; and the only regret he has ever excited in our minds, arises from the circumstance that severe illness has lately prevented him from giving us his invaluable assistance in person. (*Hear!*) We have however, in his excellent judgment, whenever it is called for, a sheet-anchor that never will forsake us."—(*Hear!*)

Dr. *Gilchrist*.—"Let it not be supposed that I said any thing against Mr. Howorth. On the contrary, I spoke of him

as a man of liberal feeling and sentiments; as one who was perfectly capable, when in health, of performing his duty. It was with the feeling that his indisposition was hopeless not I introduced the subject; but I threw no imputation whatever on his character or conduct.

Mr. *Hume* said that, having had a communication yesterday with Mr. Howorth (but not on this subject), he would perhaps be permitted to state that the mental abilities of that gentleman were at the present moment as strong as ever they were.—(*Hear!*) Of all those who had seen Mr. Howorth's conduct in that court (so moderate and so useful to the interests of the Company) not one, he thought, would be found at all disposed to carry the motion of which his learned friend had given notice. At the same time he must say, knowing Mr. Howorth's anxiety to have every office properly and efficiently filled, that if he had no hope of recovering, if he saw no chance of his being able to return to the execution of those duties which undoubtedly were expected and should be performed by the chairman of the committee of by-laws, he was sure Mr. Howorth himself would, under such circumstances, tender his resignation. He should therefore submit (with every disposition to support the principle that offices should be effectively filled), whether looking to the manner in which Mr. Howorth had for a long time performed his duties, it would be just or generous to remove him thus suddenly from the committee. He could not be led to suppose, as might be inferred from what had been recently said, that the committee had not missed his loss—for his absence certainly was a loss; but, out of respect to Mr. Howorth, knowing his talents and abilities were as energetic as ever, and knowing also that he did not himself despair of being again able to discharge his duties, he hoped he would be allowed still to hold that situation which the committee had selected him to fill.—(*Hear!*)

Mr. *Twining* said his hon. friend had misunderstood him, if he supposed him to have said that the committee never missed the chairman. His observation, on the contrary, was that they did miss him; but that, when any question of difficulty occurred, they sent to him, and had the benefit of his opinion though he was absent.

The motion was then carried.

The Hon. D. *Kinnaird* was then re-elected a member of the committee, without observation.

On the motion—

"That Geo. Cumming, Esq. be continued a member of the committee of by-laws."

Mr. *Hume* said he hoped that, in agreeing

ing to this motion, it would be considered as coming under the same rule which had been applied in the case of Mr. Howorth. Mr. Cumming, he understood, was in a state of health which rendered his attendance very precarious. Now, if they were to have committees for the performance of particular duties, those committees ought to be efficiently constituted. They must still look to the manner in which public business ought to be done. He thought if Mr. Cumming did not feel himself fit for duty next year, the fact ought to be signified. When the subject of the by-laws committee was last mentioned, it had been suggested that a list of attendances should be kept, to enable the proprietors to judge whether the duties were properly performed. It would be satisfactory to the court if it were stated how far, on the average of attendance, there was present in the committee a majority of members or beneath it.

The *Chairman*.—"It must be quite evident to the hon. proprietor who has just spoken, that if it be thought desirable, the general court can call on the committee of by-laws to report the attendance of members if it please; but no such motion having been made by any member of the general court, there has not been any report drawn up. If the general court calls for a report, the committee will of course make it; but it is not the duty of the gentlemen behind the bar to ask for a report. With respect to Mr. Cumming, I beg leave to say, that whatever bodily infirmity he may labour under, he has regularly attended the committee. He himself, though absent this day, signed the report; and no person can be more attentive to his duty than that hon. gent."

P. Heatly, Esq., G. Grote, Esq., D. Lyon, Esq., R. Williams, Esq., B. Barnard, Esq., Sir H. Strachey, Bart., J. Darby, Esq., J. H. Tritton, Esq., J. Carstairs, Esq., R. Twining, Esq., and Sir J. Shaw, Bart. were re-elected without observation.

The *Chairman* then proposed,

"That James Hallett, Esq. be elected a member of the Committee of By-Laws for the year ensuing, in the room of Henry Smith, Esq., deceased."

Agreed to.

Mr. Hallett begged leave to express his sincere acknowledgments for the high honour which the court had conferred on him. He was happy to be associated with gentlemen of such distinguished worth and ability as formed the Committee of By-Laws. He trusted that, by attending diligently and faithfully to the duties which had been confided to him, he should merit the confidence of those who had been good enough to make him the object of their selection. (*Hear!*)

Mr. R. Jackson expressed a desire to receive some information relative to the attendance of the members of the By-Laws Committee. If it could not be otherwise procured, it would, perhaps, be necessary to move that a report of the attendance of the Committee of By-Laws for the last two years be laid before the court.

Dr. Gilchrist said, he thought that a promise had been made on this subject, in a former court, by Mr. Twining. He might be mistaken; but he, at the time, sat down under the idea that some information with respect to the attendance of the Committee would be afforded.

Mr. Twining said the learned gentleman had brought rather a heavy charge against him. Now he really was not at all aware of having been requested to furnish any information on this subject, or if so requested, of having given any such promise as had been attributed to him. The learned proprietor, on the occasion to which he had alluded, made a considerable number of statements as to the attendance (so, at least, he understood the learned proprietor) of the Directors, not of the Committee of By-Laws. The only thing he recollected to have promised, related to a doubt which the learned proprietor entertained, as to the construction that ought to be put on one of the By-Laws. He (Mr. Twining) then said, that if the learned proprietor, or any other proprietor, would state his doubts as to the true intent and meaning of any of the by-laws, and forward them to the Committee, those doubts should be carefully investigated, and an answer, containing the opinion of the Committee, should be returned. He was not aware of having promised any thing beyond that.

Capt. Maxfield inquired whether the Hon. Chairman concurred in the propriety of not asking questions until the business of the court was over.

The *Chairman*.—"The proposition has never been submitted to me before. But I think the general convenience of the court is best consulted by postponing questions until the business of the day is concluded."

General Thornton.—"By proceeding in that course, many questions could not be asked at all. If a question were put and answered at once, it would not take up five minutes time, nor interfere at all with the regular business."

Mr. R. Jackson said, he had some very interesting questions to ask, questions of great importance to the interest and honour of the Company, but he would postpone them till a proper opportunity presented itself.

Mr. Poynder said, he for one, should postpone a question he meant to put to the chair.

who had rendered the Company very important services. He should take this opportunity of saying, that he feared sufficient attention was not paid to the claims of the Company's army in India. He had recently seen many representations from different individuals connected with that army, who appeared to think they had, for some years past, been very much neglected. They seemed to entertain an opinion, that the Court of Directors had an intention of reducing their allowances, and depriving them of that reward which men who had left their native country, to better their fortunes, naturally expected after many years of service. He could not say whether these complaints were well-grounded or not; but unquestionably such complaints were made. He hoped that the Court of Directors, knowing the importance of this army, would feel the justice and propriety of freely granting to it those rewards which the brave soldier had a right to hope for. He trusted that the court would never be guided or influenced by narrow or parsimonious views, which were always impolitic, and were ultimately the most expensive. It was far more important to have the army fully convinced, that the court and the Company were acting on liberal principles towards them, than to save the expense incidental to the adoption of such principles. Some of those individuals stated, that they observed a great disposition of late to let the King's officers supersede the officers of the Company, although the latter were perfectly fit to perform the required duty. It would be invidious to select particular instances; but, if it were necessary, he could refer to several. During the last four years instances had occurred, where some most meritorious Company's officers had been removed from their posts to make way for King's officers. Those individuals were superseded by much younger men; men who were ill-qualified, either by a knowledge of the language or of the manners of the natives, to perform their duties efficiently; yet they took the situations of officers of long standing and of better ability. It would be invidious to mention names, or he could convince the court of the fact. While he entirely approved of this vote, he could not let the present opportunity pass without expressing an ardent hope, that the Court of Directors would, in future, prevent, as much as possible, their own brave and faithful soldiers from being superseded by officers in the King's service. The court knew that from time to time the destination of the King's officers was changed; they left India and were employed elsewhere; but the Company's officers were tied to the soil of India; they had no other sphere for their actions—no other scene for their

achievements. They ought, therefore, to be encouraged in every possible way, instead of being superseded in situations which their services and their abilities qualified them to hold. This was a subject that ought to command the attention of the Court of Directors.

Sir J. Doyle said he trusted that the hon. chairman would readily believe that he did not rise for the purpose of objecting to any measure which the court might think fit to adopt as a mark of its approbation for the distinguished services of this gallant officer. On the contrary, he held that the principle of rewarding those whose exertions had led to glorious and beneficial results, in the cabinet or in the field, could not be too strongly supported or too loudly applauded,—(*Hear!*) It was a principle in perfect unison with his feelings; it was as politically wise, as it was morally just.—(*Hear!*) He had not the good fortune to be known to this gallant officer, but as he was known to the court and to the country in general by his his eminent services. His successes had been achieved under circumstances the most discouraging, and surrounded by difficulties of no common magnitude—difficulties not to be surmounted but by the concentration of all those various talents which are necessary to the perfection of the military character.—(*Hear, hear!*) The executive body had, very justly and very properly, directed their attention, in the first place, to the skill, courage, and perseverance, which had enabled this gallant officer to triumph in the cause of his honourable employers, and they had then, with equal justice and propriety, adverted to his conduct, when arms gave place to negotiation. Now, though he knew that the grant of a pension to this gallant officer gave an additional degree of eclat to his merits, still he should have preferred a more military reward; namely, that there had been given to him a share in the early disposition of that prize-money, which had been acquired by his abilities and the courage of his troops. When he said this he spoke in the cause of the brave officers of both services—he spoke in the cause of the brave soldiers and sailors—by whose patient and unwearied exertions this great man was enabled to achieve so glorious a career. One of those corps was hourly expected in this country—a corps to which he was attached by every tie that could bind the affections of soldiers to each other—a corps which had for many years faithfully served the Company, and had shared in the dangers and the glories of the Nipal, the Pindarree, the Mahratta, and the Burmese wars. In conjunction with some who, had recently returned he trusted he should be able to frame a proposition, to be submitted hereafter for the favourable consideration of the court, con-
nected

nected with the subject to which he had briefly adverted. He was quite aware of the kind feelings which actuated the chairs and the court, in favour of those brave men who had fought their battles; but he was confident that a direct communication with those who had been on the spot, could not but excite still stronger emotions, even in minds already so favourably disposed towards their gallant defenders.

Dr. *Gilchrist* agreed so completely in every expression that had been used on this occasion as to feel it quite unnecessary to take up the time of the court. He should merely say that whatever the service might be, whether that of the King or of the Company, it ought to be rewarded in proportion to its deserts.

The *Chairman*.—"In allusion to what fell from the hon. proprietor (Mr. Hume), I shall take the liberty of saying that I am not aware of those reductions in the allowances to the officers of the Indian army to which he has adverted. I have not even heard of such reductions. With regard to what the hon. proprietor has said as to the selections made by the different Commanders-in-chief, I trust that such feelings of partiality, as would lead them to select unjustly, does not belong to them. Of course, a Commander-in-chief must make selections; and I hope and believe they are made with impartiality. Those gallant officers take such measures as seem to them to be necessary for the general welfare of the army, and are not guided by a preference for one service or the other. With respect to what has been said about prize-money, I have been informed by a proprietor of his intention to propound a question on that; when I trust I shall be able to give such an answer as will be satisfactory to the court."

Mr. *S. Dixon* said there might be individuals in India and elsewhere, who fancied that their services were not sufficiently rewarded; but this he believed, no man could deny, that, if there was any one body of men in the universe, who, more than another, acted nobly, he would say princely, towards those who had served them, the East-India Company stood foremost as that body. He thought this was a general question, and should be so viewed: look then to the general character of the Company. They had on all occasions acted in so liberal a manner, that no unbiassed man could suppose that any undue partiality existed in any part of their system.

Mr. *R. Jackson* said he should take up but a very few moments of the time of the court; because, when the proposition of a vote of thanks to Sir A. Campbell was entertained on a former occasion, he (Mr. Jackson) had travelled, as it were, through every league of that gallant officer's campaign; he had traced his progress through

all the vicissitudes of pestilence, of famine, and of military peril; shewing how much they were indebted to his foresight, his vigilance, and his courage, in the various trying and eventful circumstances of the war. Whilst cordially uniting in the vote of thanks, to which he had given his utmost support, he then felt that the proprietors would soon have another satisfaction, that of concurring in a vote, having for its object something more substantial, as a farther proof of the high sense which they entertained of the merits of Sir A. Campbell. Of that description was the proposition which came from the chair, and in the justice and propriety of which he entirely coincided. The hon. chairman had intimated that it was intended to ask a question on a subject closely connected with the late military proceedings. He (Mr. Jackson) certainly meant to make an inquiry relative to matters of great interest to their army and their navy. Having, on the occasion to which he had already referred, when thanks were voted to those two bodies, expatiated on their merits and entered into a full detail of their actions, it would be a work of supererogation were he to pursue that course now. He, at that time, expressed an anxious and a fond desire, that those gallant men should receive a due reward from the beneficence of the Company, when the difficulties and privations which had been encountered and overcome, and the brilliant results which had crowned their efforts, were considered. He was unwilling to interrupt, even for a moment, the decision on this vote of thanks by any inquiry as to the point on which he had thus slightly touched. He should therefore only say, that the motion had his most hearty concurrence; and, with all due respect towards the hon. chairman, he should by and by, propound his question.

The motion was then agreed to unanimously.

AUDITING ACCOUNTS IN INDIA.

The *Chairman*.—"I have now to acquaint the court that a notice of motion has been given for the production of papers, shewing the existing usage as to the auditing of accounts and conducting public business at some of the public boards in India.

Capt. *Marfield* rose and said, when it was considered that an expenditure of 20,000,000, or rather a revenue to that amount, was disposed of annually in India, the mode of auditing the various accounts, and of conducting the business of the different boards, were subjects of such deep importance, that he trusted no apology was necessary for adverting to them. That one general and approved system of audit should be observed in passing of public accounts was he believed admitted and observed

served in this country; and why it was not, and should not be observed in India, it remained for the hon. chairman to explain. That the mode of auditing the accounts of any persons or public officers should be subject to vary at the caprice of individuals was liable to the most obvious and powerful objections; and no elevation of rank, or presumed high character, should bear out the auditing authorities in departing from the general principle of examining and auditing the public accounts; and the same scale, he conceived, should be applied to one party as well as to another, let them be either civil, military, or marine. He, of course, meant to except secret service money, as well as certain political disbursements; and he alluded more particularly to supplies in the commercial department, &c. and to naval and military stores. The existence of boards for the conduct of business must be either beneficial or injurious to the public interest, as they were the most expensive appendages of the government; and unless they wrought well might be considered a dead weight upon the revenue for the sake of patronage only. He should perhaps be told that the creation of boards in India was taken from the existence of the boards here; but that would be no sufficient reason unless it was shewn that in practice they entirely agreed, and that he was certain would not be attempted. They differed no less in the amount of their labours and dispatch of business than they did in the amount of their salaries: the contrast, however, might be deemed invidious, although edifying. He should therefore afford the hon. chairman the opportunity of making it, reserving to himself the liberty of analysing and applying it. The boards in India were considered branches of the government authority, and as such, met with a degree of support and protection from government which was not extended to the boards in this country; and, in fact, scarcely any act of the boards in India would render them subject to that censure which would readily be applied here when merited. As many gentlemen in that court might be unaware how the business was done at the boards, it might be requisite to state it. With most of the boards, one day in the week was appointed as board day, when the members, attended by the secretary for the transaction of business, met probably at half-past ten, and adjourned about three. If the members differed in opinion, they drew up minutes and counter-minutes, which minutes were in many cases handed up to government to decide on the points at issue, and much delay, embarrassment, and inconvenience occurred in consequence. Business during the other days of the week, being a tropical climate, was transacted by the secretary, who circulated a box containing

letters received and to be answered, on which each member offered any remarks that occurred to him: these were again circulated, and not unfrequently long minutes of discussion between the opposing members took place, from which much delay inevitably ensued; and indeed if a member were desirous, by delay, of defeating any measure, he often had the means, by detaining the box, to effect that object. He had known that box detained for several days; and by such delay only a point was carried, as the time which had elapsed rendered the proposed arrangement impossible. He had long had some acquaintance with the evils resulting from the existence of some of those boards; but he was particularly struck by a remark once made in his presence by one of the oldest, ablest, and most experienced of their civil servants. Mr. Petrie, when governor of Prince of Wales' Island, observed that if the utmost ingenuity had been exerted to devise a plan to retard public business, create discord, embarrass the government, and swell out the records to an extent which rendered the detection of fallacies next to impossible, it was the creation of boards; and the conduct of the Marine Board at Calcutta, when he made the remark, verified its truth and accuracy. To save time, he should at once advert to its labours at that period; and if he erred, the hon. chairman could set him right. Should the premises be denied, he should move for papers to prove the fact, although it must be notoriously known in that house, and therefore unnecessary to go back to it. The circumstance to which he alluded was the audit and examination of the bills of Messrs. Kyd and Co., builders to the hon. Company at Calcutta, after the death of that amiable and inestimable member of their civil service, Mr. Speke, who was long president of the Marine Board. The board which succeeded at his death fell to minutes and counter-minutes while auditing the builder's bills, and volumes were written in lieu of auditing. Monstrous as it must appear, yet the hon. chairman knew it to be a fact, that no less than from five to seven years were so occupied, and yet the completion of the audit was not effected. During this time the government was constantly referred to, nor did the reference, he believed, stop there: he thought the Court of Directors were also referred to on the subject. Such delay, however injurious to the public, proved more injurious perhaps to the unfortunate builder, and it literally made a wreck of his once flourishing concern. Indeed such delay must be considered sufficient to ruin any concern which had only the fair and honest profits of trade to support it. The Supreme Government at length either grew weary of the tardy progress of the Marine Board,

or perhaps felt for the cruel situation of the wretched builder, and at once took the audit of the builder's accounts thus in arrear, and subjected them to the decision and audit of arbitrators. The government appointed the marine surveyor-general of India as their auditor and arbitrator, no doubt supposing that accounts which had occupied one of their boards for years required mathematical solution, or perhaps involved some question in the occult sciences. The master builder appointed a plain intelligent gentleman, who was a member of one of the mercantile houses at Calcutta. In six short weeks did those gentlemen audit and pass those accounts which had occupied the Marine Board for a series of years. He should offer no other comment upon this than to say, that if justice had been done the builders, some compensation would have been made to them for the loss, vexation, and injury they sustained in consequence of so many years delay. With respect to the auditing of accounts, the ordinary practice was for those officers or persons, who submitted their accounts through such department, to send them in the first instance to the secretary of the Marine Board; he forwarded them to the marine paymaster, who was the examiner as well as the auditor, as to market prices, and rates, &c. allowed; and his mode of audit was governed by instructions framed by the board's orders to him for such purpose. The paymaster then, in such cases, examined the accounts submitted to him, compared the prices charged with the market rates, checked off the accounts to the market rates, and, submitting a report to the board, returned the accounts: the board then ordered the accounts to be checked agreeably to the paymaster's suggestions, and passed them back to the paymaster for payment. He had said, that in most cases the paymaster checked the accounts: it must appear strange why he did not do so in all; or, to use a coarse but homely adage, why what was sauce for the goose was not sauce for the gander; but the Marine Board had prohibited his doing so. Their orders, dated the 3d of June 1818, to such effect, would, he trusted, be found on their records, and he should move for its production. It happened that the practice of checking the prices charged in the bills by the rates was deemed unnecessary when the board induced government to transfer the supply of certain stores from the master-builder to the import warehouse-keeper. He was a civil servant; and notwithstanding the high respect which he (Capt. M.) entertained, and ever should entertain for the gentlemen of the civil service, he must say he thought their accounts should have been audited by the same scale, and in the

same manner as those of the master-builder, of the captains commanding the Company's cruisers, and of all others submitted to the marine paymaster; and he did not believe that one member of the Bengal civil service would feel complimented by an exception passed in his favour. He supposed the board meant merely to save the paymaster unnecessary trouble; but he did certainly think it was very bad tact. Now the import warehouse-keeper, whose bills for articles supplied from the bazaar were thus exempted by the board from the ordinary form of audit was Mr. John Trotter. Considering Mr. Trotter's natural ignorance of, or unacquaintance with, the quality and price of various naval stores supplied by him, it followed, as a matter of course, that his native servants purchased the articles, or, in other words, as his agents made the supplies; and it ought to have followed equally as a matter of course, that the bill for supplies so made ought to have been subjected to the same audit as those of all other bills in the marine department. And when one recollected that the accidental supplies made by other persons were but as drops to the ocean, compared to those made by Mr. Trotter, it must appear rather remarkable that such audit was confined to the minor and not extended to the major disbursements. He should best illustrate the labours of the Marine Board, and enable the court to judge of its merits by stating how the trifling bills for the supply of vegetables, vinegar, or lemon-juice made to the Company's cruisers at different ports were audited; and to what unqualified deductions the pittance of pay allowed to the officers of the Company's marine was subjected by the *flat* of the board, as a specimen of audit. The Company's cruisers, touching at different ports, were allowed a trifling supply of vegetables, lemon-juice, vinegar, and candles, the amount of which, for six or seven months, might probably average 200 or 300 rupees, or £20 or £30 sterling. The bills for such supply, accompanied by vouchers, were submitted by the commander or purser for payment when the ships accounts were settled and the crew paid. By the orders of the Marine Board a market price was assumed and applied, and the bills were reduced as they thought proper, or as the paymaster suggested, before they were paid; and as the disbursement was made at different ports, the commander was subjected to the loss, which was consequently deducted from his pay. Such a mode of auditing a bill, if it could be called an audit, was at least arbitrary, and liable to numerous objections, unless the supplies were taken in at the port where the audit was made: no person could, in that case, object to their being regulated by the market

market rate. But when made at distant and foreign ports, where the supplies were perhaps obtained with difficulty, such bills, in justice, ought to have been audited in the same manner as those of the royal navy. He mentioned this merely to illustrate the board's vigilance; and he should now read the copy of a letter from the Marine Paymaster to the Marine Board, with reference to the audit of Mr. Trotter's bills; the audit of which had, by the board's orders, of June 3, 1818, been confined to a mere comparison of the original bills with the account submitted, without any regard to market rates. The letter was as follows:—

"To J. Swinton and J. P. Larkins, Esqs., members of the Marine Board.

"Gentlemen: In acknowledging the receipt of your secretary's letter, dated the 24th ult., conveying to me the board's orders directing me to audit Mr. Trotter's bill for the supplies of stores purchased by him from the bazaar, I beg to be informed whether I am to audit them merely as before, by comparing the quantities supplied and charged with the original bills for the quantity demanded; or whether I am to remark on the accordance of the prices, compared with the rates in the bazaar or market. I am induced to request the board's order on these points, in consequence of the Marine Board's orders to my predecessor, under date the 3d of June 1818, in which the auditing Mr. Trotter's bills was confined to comparing his charges with the prices of the several articles in the original bills; therefore I could not, without deviating from the path prescribed by the board, have remarked in any way on the accordance or otherwise of the prices charged in Mr. Trotter's bills with the actual bazaar prices; consequently the whole of the bills, as far as they regard market rates, have been unaudited ever since the 3d of June 1818. I beg to explain to the board that the master-builder's bills, as well as all bills from other persons, with the exception of Mr. Trotter's, have always been checked agreeably to the bazaar rates, when audited by me.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,
"E. S. ELLIS, marine paymaster."
"Fort William, Marine Paymaster's Office,
Aug. 3, 1821."

The reply of the board was as follows:

"To E. S. Ellis, Esq., Marine Paymaster.

"Sir: I am directed by the Marine Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 3d, and in reply, to desire that you will continue for the present to audit Mr. Trotter's bills in the way you have been accustomed to do, or in other words, that you will merely compare the quantities of articles charged for by the naval store-keeper with the quantities mentioned in the original bills or receipts of the persons from whom they were purchased. Mr. Trotter has been desired to transmit, on all occasions, the last-mentioned documents to you with his accounts of supplies purchased for the board.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient servant.
"Marine Board, "H. SARGENT, sec."
"8th August 1821."

Here was matter for reflection and explanation. If Mr. Trotter's bills were in accordance with the market price, why should they not have been audited by the market rates as well as those of every other person? and as it ought to be known that Mr. Trotter charged a commission of five per cent. on all articles so provided, exclusive of charges amounting to about two and a half per cent. more, and as all other individuals were not allowed any commission, it would seem extraordinary

that his bills should be exempted from that salutary rule. The abstract of bills submitted to the marine paymaster, on account for supplies furnished by Mr. Trotter for the marine department in Sept. 1822, was as follows:—

The amount said to be the cost of articles supplied, is	Rs. 8,018 10 6
The charge on ditto as made by Mr. Trotter	Rs. 206 4 8
Mr. Trotter's commission	400 15 7
	Rs. 8,625 14 9

Here it was evident that an augmentation of more than $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. took place on prices not governed or regulated by the market rates. He had copies of the bills from the Company's records, and could exhibit them in a most striking point of view; but he refrained, for the present. On the 18th of May 1821, Mr. Trotter addressed a letter to the Marine Board, in which he stated, that he allowed his *dewan* to receive a *dustoor* of half an anna in the rupee, or more than 3 per cent., from the persons of whom articles were purchased on the public account; and the Board, through their secretary, replied to him on the 23d of May 1821. Those letters were most important; but from tenderness he would not adduce them, as he conceived the object he had in view might be attained without them; in which case it might be unnecessary. He could adduce fifty other instances illustrative of the labours of the Marine Board; but for the present he should reserve them. Having thus adduced specimens of the Board's labours in its auditing capacity, he should next advert to it as a channel of communication with Government on nautical subjects. It was natural to conclude, from the designation of it as a "Marine Board," that it possessed some nautical knowledge or information which might render its aid available to Government in cases where such information was indispensable to promote the public service; but experience would induce him to think that the Board was formed rather for the purpose of creating some good appointments, than for any benefit that could be expected to accrue from a body so constituted. It was enough to say, the Board was composed entirely of civil servants, whose nautical knowledge must have been acquired in the passage to India as writers; and however apt they might have been to form Lords of the Admiralty, it was not reasonable to conclude that a board so constituted would be found to exist, except in the service of this Company. In 1818 it having been brought to the notice of Capt. Hamilton (who then commanded the *Dunira*), that one of the Company's chartered ships, the *Bombay Castle*, had been nearly lost in the Straits of Sunda, by striking on a sunken rock, it was deemed desirable

desirable that the exact position of the rock should be ascertained; and as two surveying ships were then proceeding from Calcutta, with Sir Stamford Raffles, to form a settlement in the Straits of Malacca, a favourable opportunity for so doing offered itself. He (Capt. Maxfield) commanded the surveying ships then about to sail; and a desire to promote the interests of the Company, as well as the interests of navigation in general, induced him personally to urge, and at length persuade Capt. Hamilton to bring it to the notice of Government; and little indeed could he have expected that it should have given birth to the letter which was addressed by the Supreme Government to the Governor-General of the Netherlands Government at Batavia. The letter which he should read would exhibit what was done in consequence, and every person who had ever seen a chart of the Straits of Sunda, would at once say what it was the duty of the Marine Board to have done on the occasion, unless it could be believed that the Supreme Government seriously and deliberately intended to awaken and excite suspicion and distrust as to the objects for which the surveying ships were sent into the Dutch waters. The following was the communication which he received:—

“To Capt. W. Maxfield.

“Sir: I have the orders of the Marine Board to transmit you herewith the accompanying despatch, addressed to the Commissioner-general of the Netherlands Government at Batavia, on the subject of the projected survey in the Straits of Sunda, which you are desired to deliver accordingly in the event of the survey in question being taken. Should circumstances, however, arise to postpone or prevent the execution of that service, you will be pleased to withhold the delivery of that letter, which is in that case to be returned to the chief secretary to this government. A copy of the said despatch is herewith annexed for your information and guidance, as also a copy of a letter addressed to the board by Mr. Chief Secretary Adam, in pursuance of which I am directed to furnish you with particular instructions to avoid any unnecessary communication with the Dutch in the vicinity of the scene of your surveying operations. You are especially desired not to enter on any examination of either coast, nor to explore Lamanoa or Keyser's Bay, nor Lampeng Bay.

I am, &c.

“E. S. PORTBURY, sec. to Marine Board.”
“Fort William, 1st Dec. 1818.”

The despatch was as follows:—

“To their Excellencies Cornelius Theodore Clout, Baron Vander Capellen, and Admiral A. A. Bayskes, commissioners-general of his Majesty the King of the Netherlands, &c. &c. Batavia.

“Honourable Sirs: It has been represented to us to be extremely desirable, for the general interests of navigation and science, as well as for the convenience of commerce with China and the eastern seas, that the exact position and extent of the shoal in the Straits of Sunda, called *Thwart-the-Way*, should be distinctly ascertained and accurately laid down in the charts; and we have availed ourselves of an opportunity now presented of accomplishing that object. The ships *Neerchus* and *Mindo* belonging to the surveying establishment of the government have been accordingly ordered to the service in question, the execution of which is confided to Capt. Maxfield, the deputy marine surveyor-general. We have deemed it proper to announce this measure to your excellencies, and to solicit your assistance to Capt. Maxfield in

the execution of a duty interesting to both nations, should circumstances render it necessary for him to seek it.

“We have, &c.

“HASTINGS, G. DOWDESWELL,
“J. STUART, C. M. RICKETTS.”

“Fort William, 20th Nov. 1818.”

“A true copy. J. ADAM, chief sec. to gov.
“A true copy. E. S. PORTBURY, sec. to
“Marine Board.”

This was the letter from the Supreme Government in India that was to be submitted to the commissioners of the King of the Netherlands, at Batavia, for the purpose of explaining the object of the two cruisers sent into the Straits of Sunda; or rather to prevent the Dutch Government from supposing they were holding communication with the Malay chiefs then in rebellion and opposed to the Dutch Government. That such letter should have the desired effect, it was at least requisite that the object for which the two cruisers were sent should appear probable and likely; and if it had stated that the survey of the shoal or sunken rock on which the *Bombay Castle* had struck was the cause of their being sent, the views of the British Government would have been explained without the chance of misconception. But the stating to the Dutch Government that the cruisers were sent to the Dutch waters to ascertain the exact position and extent of the shoal in the Straits of Sunda called *Thwart-the-Way*, could not fail to excite those very suspicions which the British Government were earnestly desirous of preventing. The Dutch Government well knew, and must have believed the British Government to be equally well acquainted with the fact, that *Thwart-the-way*, instead of a shoal, the position and extent of which were doubtful, was a well-known island of considerable elevation, several miles in extent, its exact position well determined, and probably better known than any other part of the Straits of Sunda. Under such circumstances (as the Dutch Government were probably not aware of the composition of the Marine Board at Calcutta), it was not unreasonable to expect that they should form conclusions not very creditable to the British Government, particularly when it was known that the two cruisers so sent, proceeded in the first instance with Sir S. Raffles to establish a settlement at Singapore, where they rode guard for several months before they proceeded to the Straits of Sunda; consequently the letter apprising the Dutch Government of their being so employed in their waters was of a date eight or nine months prior to its delivery, while the presence and proceedings of those cruisers in the eastern seas were long before well-known to the Dutch Government. He knew not to whose maritime knowledge the British Government were indebted for the composition of that letter, but the Marine Board at least ought to have had suffi-

cient sagacity to have averted its consequences, by affording Government the requisite information on the subject. Having said so much of the Marine Board, he would now look to it under the designation of "the Board of Customs, Salt, and Opium;" for, to use a phrase of Sir John Falstaff's, it was "doubly charged with dignity." In the month of August 1820 a letter was sent from the Board to the Governor-General, from which he begged leave to read an extract:

"Having every day reason to regret the want of a building suited to the different purposes of the board, and apprehending from the work not having yet been commenced upon that some circumstance must have occurred to interfere with the arrangement on this point, which government resolved to adopt on the 25th of January last, we beg to suggest, for the consideration of your excellency in council, the following mode of accomplishing the object, not altogether without some additional expense, but without the necessity of subjecting the naval store-keeper to the alleged inconvenience of vacating a part of the ground at present attached to his department; we mean by the occupation of the house and premises in Clive Street which belonged to the late Capt. Blythe, and which are now the property of Messrs Larkins and Trotter, of the civil service. The premises in question are very eligibly situated immediately between the two custom-houses: they consist of a house with spacious godowns attached, capable of holding the Company's opium investments. The house has at present only two stories; the proprietors however engage to build a third, and a verandah to the southward, and to put it and the godowns in a thorough state of repair, provided government will take them on a lease for the remainder of the existing charter, at a monthly rent of sicca rupees 800, and will be at the expense of keeping them in repair during that period. The premises, when the additional ground shall be taken in, will embrace three begahs and eight chuttacks of ground, in a part of the town where property of this kind is, from its situation and vicinity to the custom-houses and the river, very valuable. If we are correctly informed, the building proposed to be erected for the accommodation of this department, and the godowns, which we understand it will in consequence be necessary to construct for the use of the naval store-keeper's office, will cost government about 100,000 rupees; and if to this be added the value of the ground on which the house and godowns first-mentioned are proposed to be built, and which would realize 35,000 rupees at auction, government will find the expense will but little exceed what was originally contemplated, while we have no hesitation in saying, that in point of accommodation, the house and godowns in Clive Street are infinitely to be preferred to those proposed to be built on a part of the marine yard.

"We have, &c.

"J. P. LARKINS."

"Board of Customs, Salt and Opium, the 15th of Aug. 1820."

On the 25th of August, ten days after the foregoing letter was written, Mr. J. P. Larkins, or the Board of Salt and Opium, again addressed government, and begged them not to entertain the proposition contained in the letter of the 15th of August. Now he (Capt. Maxfield) thought it was not very likely that the government would entertain the proposition made by that gentleman. He had no observation or remark to make on the terms of the tender; he did not mean to say that it was reasonable or otherwise, for he knew nothing about it. But, as the objections which might be urged were so obvious and so numerous, he deemed it unnecessary to

adduce them. He did believe that such a mode of tendering private houses or other property by persons holding high official situations to the Company's government was not a very general practice, and he could not think that the executive body would either permit or approve of it. There was, however, a practice which he had known to be adopted in several instances, and which ought to be discouraged: it was that of having, for government purposes and offices, the houses of gentlemen in the service, or the allowing a secretary or other officer to occupy their own houses, and to draw the sum allowed by government for office rent. Thus a change of persons in the different departments often removed the offices from one end of Calcutta to another, and was productive of inconvenience and delay in the transaction of public business, as he had frequently experienced. Such tenders also of private property were liable to misconstruction; and the letter addressed by Mr. J. P. Larkins on the subject of the house of Messrs. Larkins and Trotter, induced the marine paymaster to make some commentaries in a letter to the government on the subject, which led to his suspension until he had withdrawn his letter and apologized to Mr. Larkins for his having done so. It was probable that the letter from the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium, tendering the house of Messrs. Trotter and Larkins, was signed by all the members of the board, and that the want of other names to it was an error of the clerk who copied it. Most undoubtedly, however, it was not an error of his (Capt. Maxfield's) in making his copy; but the production of it, from the Company's records, would put the matter beyond a doubt, and it was very desirable that such a mistake should be avoided. When the orders were issued to the marine paymaster (under date of the 3d June, 1818) to refrain from auditing Mr. Trotter's bills by the market rate, the members of the Marine Board were, he believed, Mr. G. Udney, Mr. J. P. Larkins, and Commodore John Hayes; but he had authority for asserting that Commodore Hayes was no party to the framing of that order, and that he was either absent or did not approve and sign the rough draft or minute of it: the production of the proceedings of the board of that date would clear up this point. When the paymaster was again instructed that he was not to audit Mr. Trotter's bills with reference to the market rates (under date Aug. 8, 1821), the members of the Marine Board were Mr. Swinton and Mr. J. P. Larkins; but the order was sent through the secretary, and signed "H. Sargent," and therefore it did not appear how many or how few members were present; but that could be illustrated by the production of the board's proceedings.

ings. Having frequently referred to the public records, he should now explain how he had obtained access to them, and he should do so for the purpose of avoiding misconception. When he determined to return to this country, he contemplated the writing and publishing of a work, describing the different branches of the service in India, with the degree of efficiency they had attained at different periods, and the defects which operated to retard or prevent farther improvement: he thought such a work might prove useful when the renewal of the Company's charter came under discussion. He waited upon the Marquess of Hastings, explained to him his object, and asked his authority to have access to the public records. His lordship, with that manliness and candour which distinguished his character, said, "Sir, you shall have permission—no obstacle shall be thrown in your way:" such was the authority he had for consulting those documents. He now begged to disclaim, most distinctly, any intention of reflecting personally on the conduct or motives of any of the members of the boards he had alluded to. Their measures were public, and were therefore fit subjects for discussion; and although he had referred to the accounts and bills of Mr. Trotter, he must disclaim all intention of casting any imputation on that gentleman. The transactions alluded to were of a public nature, and could not admit of such an interpretation. Perhaps the simple view which he had taken of the practice of the boards might be materially altered by the explanations it might be in the hon. Chairman's power to afford; in which case he should be as ready to express his conviction of its excellence as he was at present inclined to question it. He should now beg leave to move that the following papers be laid before the court:

"The Marine Board's letter to the marine paymaster, of June 3, 1818, prohibiting him from auditing Mr. Trotter's bills agreeably to the market rates, with the board's minute on the subject—The marine paymaster's letter to the Marine Board on the subject of auditing Mr. Trotter's bills, dated Fort William, Aug. 3, 1821—The Marine Board's reply to the foregoing letter, dated Fort William, 8th of August 1821, with the board's minute—The Board of Customs, Salt, and Opium letter to the Governor General in Council, dated Fort William, Aug. 15, 1820, suggesting the eligibility of engaging the house of Messrs. Larkins and Trotter for the remainder of the charter, at a monthly rent of 800 rupees—Any regulations or orders the Court of Directors may have ever issued as to the auditing of the accounts of public officers, or persons making supplies on account, and of the commission, &c. allowed on such disbursements—Mr. Trotter's letter to the Marine Board, dated 18th of May 1821, and the Board's reply through their secretary, dated May 23, 1821.

Col. *L. Stanhope* seconded the motion.

The *Chairman*.—"I think I may fairly venture to say that the hon. and gallant *Asiatic Journ.* Vol. 24. No. 139.

officer has not made out any case that calls on the court to grant these papers. I do not think he exhibited any one point in his statement that would make it desirable that the general court should enter into the minute of details connected with the Bombay Marine Board. I apprehend that when the hon. and gallant officer entered into the statement relative to Capt. Trotter's being allowed five per cent. commission, he forgot to enquire whether that advantage was not taken into consideration in estimating that gentleman's salary. In fact, it formed a part of the emoluments of Mr. Trotter's situation, and cannot surely be a fit subject for the consideration of the general court. The hon. and gallant officer has occupied us a long time in remarking on the improper mode in which the Marine Board issued orders for taking surveys; but what this subject has to do with the mode of auditing accounts by the Marine Board I am perfectly at a loss to conceive. Without going through all the topics to which the hon. and gallant officer has referred, I must declare that I see no reason for entertaining this proposition, and therefore I shall meet the motion for the production of papers with a direct negative."

Mr. *Larkins*.—Not having had the honour of addressing the Court before, he hoped the proprietors would grant him their indulgent attention for a short time. (*Hear!*) The observations which had fallen from the gallant officer on the other side of the court necessarily called on him to stand forward in his own defence. When he read the notice some time ago, intimating the intention of bringing the conduct of the public boards in India before the Court of Proprietors, he had his suspicion that though boards were mentioned, that to which he (Mr. Larkins) belonged would be the only one noticed. He had not been disappointed, as the speech of the gallant officer proved. But, even with that suspicion on his mind, he was not prepared to follow the gallant officer through his long and elaborate address, especially as many of the circumstances he had referred to had occurred fourteen or fifteen years ago; and though the gallant officer had raked up the ashes of the injured dead, and introduced the conduct of a gentleman now no more, God forbid that in the little he meant to say he should follow such an example. It was most true, that a great many very unpleasant circumstances occurred when he (Mr. Larkins) joined the Marine Board in 1811, and no person regretted those discussions more sincerely than he did: that they led to a delay of business, and consequently to an accumulation of it, was unquestionably true. The gentlemen on the other side of the bar must be aware of what those unpleasant circumstances, which led to the removal of the only marine officer in the board,

board, had originated in. Since that period the duties of the board had not been at all impeded by unpleasant dissensions or disagreements; and government had not the least occasion to find fault with its proceedings. The gallant officer had also brought forward to the notice of the court in a very marked manner the conduct of the Marine Board, in not having audited the accounts of the master-builder; and he had come to this conclusion, that the master-builder had, in consequence, been a great loser. Now, it was due to himself and his colleagues to state, that this could not be so, because a monthly allowance was made to the master-builder, in this way: if, for instance, he sent in an account at the end of a month for 10,000 rupees, he immediately received 9,000, and the remainder was paid to him when the account was audited; therefore, it was clear that he could not be a loser, or if he were, it must be to a very trifling amount. With respect to the manner in which the duties of the Marine Board were performed, possibly the members had not that acquaintance with marine affairs which nautical men would have; but he would put it to the gallant officer himself to say, with reference to the supply of marine stores, whether any complaint was ever made on that point. The gallant officer had adverted to the manner in which application was made, and to the way in which the bills were audited, but he had not noticed a most important point as regarded the duties of the board, namely, the quality of the articles supplied. The gallant officer could himself have declared—and in justice he ought to have done so, for he was on the Bengal side of India, where the Company's marine was—whether the quality of the article supplied had at any time been found fault with. The gallant officer next carried himself to the Straits of Sunda, and complained of the Marine Board not having proper intelligence, and not sending out a proper survey by Capt. Hamilton. Here the board was found fault with for want of nautical knowledge, and it was immediately after attacked in its capacity of Board of Customs. Now it was going a little too far to say, supposing, for argument's sake, that there was a deficiency in nautical knowledge, that therefore the board was not competent to perform the duties of the salt and opium department; but he would maintain, that the whole of the duties confided to the gentlemen composing the Marine Board were discharged in an efficient manner. The next circumstance noticed by the gallant officer related to certain property belonging to himself (Mr. Larkins) and Mr. Trotter. Immediately after the purchase of that property it was tendered to government at a rent of 800 rupees monthly. This matter was introduced to throw a reproach upon him

(Mr. Larkins); but he would shew that the offer to government was an advantageous one. The property was afterwards sold piece-meal for two lacs of rupees, and he now held a quarter of it, which was let to government at 925 rupees a month. He was quite at a loss to understand, or to account for the angry feeling which the gallant officer seemed to entertain in his mind against the individual who now addressed the court. The gallant officer had been in communication with the board for eight or nine years, and he would ask him whether, in that time, any thing unpleasant had passed between him and them, individually or collectively? Why the gallant officer should take this particular time to introduce such a subject, and to enter into a detail of circumstances long gone by, he could not conceive. How the gallant officer had procured his information he (Mr. Larkins) could tell; but he would not do so, he would leave it to the gallant officer himself to make the disclosure. The Marine Board, which had thus been assailed, was under the orders of government, from which it received its instructions. He believed it had always been found efficient, and he thought it most unfair to bring charges, founded on matters which had long since occurred, against this board in the present day. The board was responsible to the government, and not to the Court of Proprietors—

Mr. Lowndes, to order.—“I deny that assertion. The proprietors are the paramount body; you are all responsible to us.”

Mr. Larkins.—“I meant to say, not directly, though ultimately responsible.”

Mr. S. Dixon.—“The worthy gentleman has stated that this is the first time he has been in the court; he is besides speaking in defence of his conduct, and therefore I hope he will be heard with indulgence.”

Mr. Larkins was sorry if he had made use of any expression that was calculated to give offence; he did not intend to do so. He was unwilling to trespass farther on the time of the court; he therefore should only say, in the presence of those under whom he had acted for thirty years of his life, that after a long course of public service, performed without stain, reproach, or imputation, he trusted that he stood sufficiently well in the estimation of the gentlemen behind the bar, and in the respect and regard of all who knew him, as to render any farther vindication of his conduct unnecessary. (*Hear!*)

Dr. Gilchrist said, that when he got up before to address the court, he was not aware that the hon. gentleman whose conduct had been in some degree arraigned was present. He was glad the hon gentleman was in the court, to rise and vindicate his conduct as he had done. With respect to the gallant officer who brought forward

forward this subject, he trusted that he would be acquitted of the charge of having introduced it from any motives of revenge or personal enmity. (*Hear, hear !*) He had too much knowledge of the gallant officer's courage, honour, and manly honesty, to believe, for a moment, that he would let this business sleep during several years, in order to bring it forward, ultimately, for a base and unworthy purpose. (*Hear !*) As to the manner in which those letters or extracts of letters were procured, it had nothing to do with the question: the only point was this, "do the letters contain facts, or do they not?" If the statements were not true, the best way would be to produce the papers, and to disprove them by that evidence. If he stood in Mr. Larkins's place he should feel it no favour to him if those letters were withheld; because it might afterwards be said, "O! if the papers had been produced, such and such things would have been discovered;" and Mr. Larkins might live to see the day when, if those documents were given up, he might point at them, and ask triumphantly, "what did these papers prove against me?" Now if there did exist in India an ignorant Marine Board, it was surely important that the court should know it: certainly they could not hinder what was past; but they could remove errors, and make improvements as they went on. Then it was asserted, that two different modes of auditing accounts were admitted; this was manifestly wrong. The audit of accounts ought to be placed on one footing. One man's accounts, it appeared, were to be examined with reference to the market rates, those of another merely with reference to the bills sent in, and this distinction was made without any reason assigned, but merely because those who put their *flat* on it had the power. If the civil servants of the Company were placed in those situations where their interest and their duty must clash together, the court was called upon to correct the system, and to see that the business of the Company was conducted on the most honourable principles, both with respect to themselves and to individuals.

Mr. Larkins. — "The learned gent. seems to have some suspicion that I do not wish the papers to be produced. He is deceived. I have not the least objection whatever." (*Hear !*)

Dr. Gilchrist. — "I assure the hon. member I entertain no such suspicion."

Mr. Lowndes hoped, as it was long since he had addressed the court, that he would not be called to order unless he bolted out of the course. The discussion this day was of great importance, and well deserved their consideration. It had been admitted, almost in as many words, that the Board was an ignorant Board; that ap-

peared to him to be the blunt confession of an honest sailor—but it went far to support the statement of the gallant officer. They were told that those who audited the accounts were interested persons. Now, if that were not a flagrant abuse, he knew not what could deserve the appellation. He was an independent man, and delivered his opinions without fear or favour; and he thought the best thing the Company could do was to encourage the manufacture of honest and independent men, who would speak their minds openly, as was the case of old. It was an unfortunate thing that those honest men had dwindled away of late years. When he made this remark, however, he must admit that, within the last twenty years, the Company had been much benefited by the exertions of a number of honest and able men in that court. And he would here take the liberty of saying, in answer to an observation of the hon. gent. (Mr. Larkins), that though the Directors might call themselves the government of India, the proprietors were really so. It was to the proprietors that the executive body were so much indebted for placing them in the high situation which they held. It could not be doubted that the mode of governing India had been greatly improved. He was happy to say, they now no longer heard of natives starving by thousands, and of governors acting in such a way as reflected disgrace and discredit on this country. He believed, too, that many of the Boards had been improved; but he much doubted if, even at the present day, still farther improvements might not be made. He had always observed that, when advice was given to any great public body, and was ultimately acted upon, the credit of the suggestion was not given to those who had originally made it, but to those who had carried it into effect. He recollected having suggested an improvement to his friend Mr. Lowndes, of the tax-office, and he said he would turn it over in his mind. He afterwards spoke to his friend on the subject, when he said, "Oh, there is nothing new in that, it is the very thing we have been thinking about;" and he would give him (Mr. Lowndes) no credit for his suggestion. And he doubted not that, in the same way, letters would hereafter be received from India, stating that the improvements which were this day recommended had been for some time in progress. He did not think any man or body of men had a right to feel sore when their errors were pointed out to them: for his own part, he never would be offended at any man telling him his faults. He did not say that he would correct them (*a laugh*); but he would put a good face on the matter at least, and say, "I am obliged to you." (*A laugh.*) He was happy

happy to throw his widow's mite into the general treasury for the removal of abuses ; and he must say, that much abuse existed in their marine service. A relation of his own, who had filled the situation of mate in their service, and than whom no man better understood the nautical profession, had been shamefully treated. After thirty years of zealous service, he had been obliged to retire to America on a trifling property, having found it impossible to procure a ship. And why, because he was an honest man, and exposed abuses : he was, therefore, obliged to retire as mate of an Indianman. To this day, not the least provision was made for them. Now he was of opinion, that if accounts were audited in this country, instead of being audited in India, enough would be saved to make an ample provision for the mates of Indianmen. (*Laughter.*)

Capt. *Maxfield* (in reply) said, that as neither evidence nor argument had been advanced to disprove any of the data he had adverted to, or any of the observations he had made, he should now confine himself to the admissions of the hon. Chairman and the hon. proprietor on the floor (Mr. Larkins), and leave the court and the public to form their own conclusions. The hon. Chairman, although he stated his intention to oppose the motion, did not attempt to disprove the fact, that different modes of audit were adopted towards different persons, or that such distinction arose from direct and positive orders issued by the Marine Board. But, while he passed over, or appeared to have forgotten that important fact, he recollected that the party whose accounts were exempted from the usual and proper form of audit was allowed a commission of five per cent. on all supplies made by him on account of government ; and he defended the allowance of that commission, under a supposition, and merely a supposition, that the salary of this individual was too little ; that the commission might be considered equivalent to pay, and that it was granted as such. He, however, did not quarrel with the commission allowed to this gentleman : he had merely stated that he received commission, while it was denied to all other persons, and yet that his bills were not subjected to the customary audit, by reference to the market rates, which they certainly ought to have been, in the same way and manner as the bills of every one else. It was by a comparison of the price sent in with the market rates at Calcutta, that the true state of the account could be seen. If the bills were not thus checked, what was to prevent individuals from charging 200 or 300 per cent. above the market rate ?

Mr. *Larkins*.—" I had forgotten to state, that at present no commission whatever is charged : the bills are now

audited by the marine paymaster with reference to the market rates. With respect to another point of the gallant officer's speech, it is a well-known fact that, in spite of every effort, the natives will take their *dustoor*."

Capt. *Maxfield* repeated that he did not quarrel with the commission allowed ; it was the exempting this gentleman's bills and accounts from regular audit that he complained of ; it was on this point that he rested. It was a fact which the hon. Chairman could not deny, and therefore he had not noticed it : that, however, was a matter of most important consideration, while the five per cent. commission was of very little consequence. Indeed, it might have been good economy to have allowed even ten per cent. to the person furnishing supplies, taking care that his bills for such supplies were audited agreeably to the market rates, in preference to allowing five per cent. and passing such bills without any reference to the prices charged, as compared to the market prices : this was too obvious to need comment. With regard to the utter ignorance or want of information on nautical subjects evinced by the Marine Board, as exhibited in the absurd letter addressed by the Governor-general in Council to the Dutch Government, the hon. Chairman had remained entirely silent ; and he (Capt. *Maxfield*) looked upon that silence as a clear admission of his knowledge that the board was utterly incompetent. The hon. proprietor on the floor, although he had not adduced any one argument or fact to confute his (Capt. *Maxfield's*) assertion, or to shake the value of the evidence he had adduced, had, however, made some admissions, for which he thanked the hon. proprietor, and begged leave to offer a few remarks on them. The hon. proprietor stated, that when he read the notice of a motion fixed for this day to consider of the mode in which accounts were passed in India, and in which business was transacted at the different boards, he had a suspicion that the motion would refer to one board only—to the board of which he was a member. Such a presentiment was perfectly natural ; and he therefore, it was to be supposed, was prepared to expect it, and to meet any objections that might be brought forward. How far the hon. gentleman's suspicion had enabled him, by bringing facts or arguments together, to defend the board, the court and the public would decide. It seemed, however, as if the hon. proprietor thought it strange that he (Capt. *Maxfield*) should have confined his remarks and evidence to the Marine and the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium. He appeared to be of opinion that his (Capt. *Maxfield's*) observations and evidence should have embraced, in one great circle,

all the boards in India. The answer to this was plain and short: he well knew and understood, from frequent communication with the Marine Board, its practice and usage; while he had little or no acquaintance with many of the other boards. Now, he wished to speak only of what he knew, and not of what he was ignorant. Doubtless, it would be more grateful to them to whom he was opposed if he introduced subjects of which he had no knowledge; but he could assure the court that he would do no such thing: he would never move a question here or elsewhere until he was master of its details, and in possession of evidence to support the facts, and to substantiate his case. The mode of audit, as detailed in the board's letter, evidently admitted of no explanation, and therefore the hon. proprietor left it unnoticed; and perhaps it would have been as judicious if he had left the nautical knowledge of the board, which had been questioned and illustrated by the letter of the Supreme Government to the Dutch Government at Batavia, in the same undisturbed situation. But, with a frankness and candour for which he gave the hon. proprietor credit, he avowed and admitted all that he (Capt. Maxfield) wished to establish; namely, that this Nautical Board, or Eastern Board of Admiralty, was composed entirely of civilians, who neither possessed, nor pretended to possess, any knowledge whatever of nautical affairs. This placed the executive government in a most extraordinary predicament; for it proclaimed to the world that they had created a board denominated a "Marine Board," composed of persons inadequate and incompetent to perform the duties. Thus the revenues of India were improperly applied; while the proper government of their marine affairs appeared to be an object of secondary consideration, compared to the contrivance of some good appointments. The hon. proprietor spoke of the allowance of *dustoori* to the servants of public officers purchasing supplies as a general practice in India, and one which, from the proneness of the natives to take it in some way or other, could not be easily prevented. Suppose this to be the fact, was that any reason that the propensity to take it should be encouraged? Were they to give European aid in support of such a practice? He, however, was disposed to deny that it was a general practice; and, if one of the Company's servants could presume to authorize his servants to receive a three per cent. fee from the party of whom goods were purchased for the Company to-day, he saw no reason why some other gentleman should not allow thirty per cent. to be received to-morrow: indeed, in such a case, he saw every inducement for the natives, thus situated, to endea-

vour to obtain it. Arguments of this kind, taken to the fullest extent, amount simply to this: that the natives of India were so prone to roguery, that it was of no use to strive to prevent it. Observations of such a nature formed, in his view of the case, the most powerful reason why the accounts he had described as unaudited by the market rates, ought to have been rigidly subjected to that which was the most effectual system of audit. With respect to the house tendered by the Board of Salt and Opium, as the house of Messrs. Larkins and Trotter, of the Company's civil service, for a public office, the hon. proprietor observed, that he had made the tender, and considered it to be a fair one. The property, he stated, had since been sold for 200,000 rupees; that he still held one-fourth of it, and, as a proof of its value, he informed the court that that portion of it was let at present to the government at 900 rupees per month, instead of 800 as originally tendered. He, however, had never questioned the fairness of the tender; he cared nothing about it. He knew that the house had been since let to government at 900 rupees per month. He had purposely avoided mentioning this; but as the hon. proprietor had introduced it, he would take the liberty of making a remark on the subject. The house was, he believed, let to the government, before it was sold, at 900 rupees per month; and, being so let, established its value beyond a doubt. But, let it be observed, that his objection was not directed against this particular house, but against the principle of government allowing many of the public functionaries in India to occupy their own houses, and to draw the allowance for office rent. And why did he oppose this practice? Because it had the effect of producing such inconvenience and delay in the transaction of business, as he had often experienced, since a change of persons in the different departments removed the public offices constantly from one end of Calcutta to the other; and, in cases of great emergency, much inconvenience resulted from it. Besides, there were other powerful reasons for rejecting such a system. The hon. proprietor had expressed his surprise that he (Capt. Maxfield) should submit a motion against the practice of the Marine Board, under whose authority he had served for many years, considering that, during the whole of that period, he had not incurred the censure of the board, or had any dispute with them; and the hon. proprietor was at a loss to know, as he (Capt. Maxfield) had always experienced politeness and attention from the board, why he should be actuated by such a feeling. He trusted that he had always performed his duty in such a manner as placed
him

him beyond the reach of the board, the members of which, he freely confessed, treated him in every instance with perfect politeness: he therefore begged leave to disclaim distinctly, as he had before done, that he was actuated by any personal feeling on this occasion. He was sure, that if he and the hon. proprietor had been better known in India, so far from entertaining hostile feelings towards him, he should have cherished none but feelings of attachment and esteem. The admission of the hon. proprietor, however, as to his (Capt. M.'s) never having had any disputes or cause of personal dissatisfaction with the board, only proved the honesty of his motives, and answered the question of the hon. proprietor. He proceeded solely on public grounds, and a desire, heartfelt and sincere, to promote the good of the public service. It was his wish to see every board of the public service efficiently filled, because the welfare of India, no less than the safety of our empire in the east, depended, in his opinion, upon that efficiency. The auditing of the accounts could never be considered a subject of minor importance, not only as it regarded the public expenditure, but as it respected the claims of this Company to the confidence of his Majesty's government. With respect to the hon. proprietor, who was a member of the board, he hesitated not to say, that he (Capt. M.) on every occasion, when it was necessary to communicate with the hon. proprietor, experienced from him the utmost politeness and attention. He trusted, therefore, the hon. proprietor would do him the justice to believe, that his conduct on this occasion rested solely upon public grounds, and that he objected, not to the members of the board, but to its formation and construction.

The *Chairman*.—"I wish to make one or two observations before this question is put to the vote.—As to the auditing the accounts of articles furnished by the marine storckeeper, whatever may have been the practice at the time referred to by the gallant officer, the market price of the day is now invariably observed in the audit; (*hear!*) and I will venture to assert, that when the audit of the boards in India generally is compared with the mode adopted here, there will be found in the former a degree of quickness and despatch that does not always belong to the latter. We are not to condemn a system because the gallant officer tells us that certain accounts happened to be three years under audit. A particular case, involving particular circumstances, ought not to be mistaken for a general rule. I can only say that all the accounts, before they are passed, undergo an examination, and it is, I think, a regulation of a very wise and wholesome nature. If this general court

wishes to go into the *minutiae* of the marine accounts, I am afraid it will be found to occupy more time and attention than the court would be willing to devote to so intricate and complicated a subject. Though the gallant officer no doubt wishes to do good, yet I think the proprietors must see that this is a subject involving matters of detail which the general court ought not to entertain—and therefore, I shall take the sense of the court upon it."

Capt. *Maxfield* begged to be understood as not wishing to make that court a court of audit; he meant no such thing. But he was desirous, for the good of the public service generally, that the audit of accounts in India should be most rigid, and that there should not be two kinds of audit. The hon. Chairman had eulogized the general management in the audit of accounts, and stated that all accounts in India were audited before they were passed; but it would have been better if, instead of merely asserting, he had proved the fact. The hon. Chairman had alluded to the military accounts; these, however, he had never questioned; he believed that they were subjected to a most rigid audit. It was not to these, but to civil accounts, that he had referred. Still, even with regard to military accounts, he conceived the hon. Chairman must be misinformed, because, from the very nature of the service, the military accounts must, of necessity, be paid in the first instance, and then audited.

The question was then put, and the motion was negatived.

THE HOUSE LIST.

The *Chairman*.—The following notice of motion has been given by an hon. proprietor:

"That the next General Court do take into their most serious consideration the notorious existence of annual house lists, standing committees, public tavern meetings, and private directorial solicitations, in favour of particular candidates for executive vacancies, as evident breaches of certain constitutional regulations in the Company's code of By-Laws, and that the most efficient measures be immediately adopted, not only to obviate in future the recurrence of such illegal practices with impunity, but also to render the April general meetings more consistent with the avowed objects of a fair ballot, and the common usage of those great corporate bodies, where the welfare of so many constituents cannot be wantonly sacrificed to the interested views of a few almost self-elected representatives."

Dr. *Gilchrist* said he should endeavour to open this question in as condensed a manner as he could, and to make his observations as short as possible. He would not remark with severity on those who were connected with the abuses which it was the object of his motion to correct, because it was not with the individuals, but with the system, and the effects produced by it, that he

he found fault. The advantages derived by individuals from those abuses were so amazing, that if an angel came down from heaven and once participated in them, he would not afterwards be able to resign or to despise them. He could not but say, that he felt no inconsiderable portion of surprise, at the report of the committee of by-laws, when he found that body broadly declaring that they saw nothing to alter, to find fault with, or to amend, in the existing by-laws. The object of his addressing the court was to shew, that one of those laws, and a very important one, was annually infringed. Now, if the existing rules of the Company's code were too severe for those gentlemen who filled the situation of directors, let them in the name of consistency be expunged from the code; let not the court keep the *letter* of those laws in existence, when the spirit of them seemed to be set at naught. A man of plain common sense like himself, did not understand what benefit could be produced by annually sanctioning an ordinance which was annually broken. If it were kept amongst their by-laws, it ought to be strictly adhered to, and not treated like a mere dead letter. At the same time he must confess, that no man would be more surprised, and, he would add, more gratified than himself, if the discussion of this day should end by inducing the Court of Directors to gain the praise and glory of declaring their intention to adhere strictly, in future, to the spirit of the existing laws. He, as a late candidate for the direction (for, though he had been defeated, he was not ashamed of his defeat), and as an independent proprietor, thought it necessary, in bringing forward his motion, to make some prefatory observations on the existing practice with respect to the annual election of directors. The system now pursued was the source of many evils. Like other mischievous systems, it had continued many years, and consequently he would not be severe on those who had recently availed themselves of "it, because they were only following the footsteps of their predecessors. In a circular address which he sent to the different proprietors of that large Company, he succinctly stated his reasons for thinking that the house-list should no longer be suffered to continue; and those reasons appeared to him, and to many others, to be conclusive on the subject. In page 341 of Mr. Auber's most excellent *Analysis of the Laws of the Company* they would find a most important paragraph. It would there be seen that, in conformity with the by-law votes for the situation of director, obtained by indirect means, were null and void, and the person procuring them for another, if a di-

rector, was liable to the loss of his seat. He was a plain man, unacquainted with sophistry, and he could only understand any proposition placed before him in the English language according to its ordinary and obvious signification; he, therefore could not but think that when the directors called upon individuals to give their votes for such and such persons, whose names they enumerated, they contravened the by-law, sec. v. cap. 7, which ordained

"That if any member of this Company shall, by menaces or promises, collusive transfer or transfers of stock, by any fee, present, reward, or remuneration, under the plea of travelling expenses, or under any other plea or pretence whatsoever, directly or indirectly obtain, or endeavour to obtain, any vote for the election of himself or any other, to be a director, and be declared guilty thereof, at a general court to be called for that purpose, such person shall be incapable thereafter of holding any office, the qualification for which is subject to the regulation of the general court, and if a director, be further liable to be removed from his office."

How, or why, this so often broken by-law had hitherto escaped the notice of the proprietors in general, was beyond his comprehension; but any one might see why the committee of by-laws had overlooked it. Now, it was perfectly clear that this by-law was not intended to be passed, without a feeling that it should be carried into effect, because the former by-law ran thus:

"That if any member of this Company shall, by menaces, promises, collusive transfer or transfers of stock, or any other indirect means whatsoever, obtain or endeavour to obtain, any vote for the election of himself or any other to be a director, and be thereof declared guilty, at a general court to be called for that purpose, such person shall for ever be incapable of being elected a director."

Let it be remembered that this *old* by-law had not the words, "or under any other plea or pretence whatsoever." It was evident from this, that the former by-law was not deemed sufficiently copious to meet the case, and therefore these stronger and more comprehensive words were added. Surely, the *quo animo*—the feeling which dictated this new provision—must be plain and palpable to every man of common sense. It could not be intended that these words should be introduced without any object—that they were to be considered a mere *verbiage*; and he hoped that he had, by this brief exposition, shewn, as a plain honest man, with some common sense about him, that every time the directors sent forth a house list, and solicited the votes of the proprietors for the individuals named in that list, they had broken the by-law. Now the directors should either have upheld the ordinance, or they should have said to the committee of by-laws, "this clause, under any plea or pretence whatsoever, is too extensive—you ought to be more definite."—(Dr. Gilchrist here took a cooling draught of water.)

Mr. Lowndes advised the directors to drink

drink nothing but water, in future, at their elections, and they would then become as pure as the crystal stream.—*(Laughter.)*

Dr. Gilchrist said he was of a warm temperature, and must keep up the radical moisture as well as he could. He hoped the court would bear with him. He was not an enemy; but, on the contrary, he wished, so far as his weak efforts could effect that object, to maintain the rights and privileges of the Company; to support its interest, and uphold its honour. He held in his hand an advertisement dated from the East-India House, signed by all the directors then in office, and recommending six gentlemen to the proprietors. Every thing connected with this document stamped it as official, so far as any thing appearing in a newspaper could be deemed official. Then came letters from the individuals thus recommended to the proprietors of East-India stock, which ran thus:—“Having the honour of being recommended by the directors as proper persons to be elected to seats in the direction this year, we take the liberty to ask the favour of your vote at the election on the 11th of April.” Now, if this were not something very like an interference, he really did not know what was. He certainly could not translate it otherwise than as an infringement of the particular law which he had read. He trusted that he would here be allowed to read a letter which he had received from one of the proprietors immediately before the last election of directors. It was an anonymous letter, and he knew not from whom it came; but, let it come from whom it might, he would read it, because it bore on the question. The letter was as follows:—

“March 30, 1827.

“Sir: Gathering from what passed at the India-House to-day, that it is the practice of the Court of Directors to put the proprietors to the expense of public advertisements and printed circular letters, as well as balloting lists in favour of what is technically called the ‘House List,’ it is the purpose of this communication to suggest to you, as being a candidate, that you should apply to the Court of Directors to grant you similar and equal advantages; and if denied, to demand by what right the public funds of the East-India Company are thus prostituted to a job to serve themselves, and uphold a system of self-election, and consequent corruption. Let me, moreover, entreat you not to be deterred from the disinterested and laudable exertions you are engaged in to benefit your own country, as well as the East-Indies, by any species of opposition which may be marshalled against you.

“I remain, Sir, your sincere well-wisher,
“An Old Proprietor of India Stock and a Friend to Fair Play.”

At the election to which that letter referred, he (Dr. G.) had about forty votes. He should have had more than forty, but for a mistake—some of those who were friendly to him not having been aware that lists containing more than six or less than five names could not be received.

When it was known that he had only forty votes, while every one of the individuals recommended by the Court of Directors had six hundred each, people would be apt to suppose that a man placed in such a situation had no right to be vain of it; now he, on the contrary, was vain of it, and he would shew why he had a right to be vain of it. He could prove it on an arithmetical principle; to say nothing of the just cause of pleasure which he must feel at the recollection of having been supported by forty unbiassed and disinterested individuals. How was he situated on that occasion? He, as an individual, had to stand against the interest of at least thirty influential persons who were opposed to him; not in a hostile way, for to him, personally, nothing inimical was manifested in carrying on the ballot. He never in his life experienced greater politeness; and he trusted that those by whom he was so treated, would always preserve the same suavity of manners. The thirty gentlemen whose interest was opposed to him, came forward with what he would call “joint-stock Company’s votes.” They united to carry a particular point; and yet, after all, there were only six hundred in favour of the individuals nominated in the House-List; whereas, could they have commanded forty votes a-piece, as he had done, there would have been twelve hundred in favour of that list; therefore, though defeated, he was not ingloriously defeated. When gentlemen cried out against hypocrisy, he could not help viewing it as a proof of the existence of virtue, because it was that homage which vice on all occasions paid to virtue. In the conduct of the directors, however, there certainly was no hypocrisy, they broke the law openly and boldly; but he hoped the time was come when the system would be changed. He now came to his motion, which was:—

“That this Court of Proprietors do recommend to the Court of Directors to take the longer continuance of the House-List into their early and deliberate consideration, that this apparent breach of our own by-laws may be avoided in future, as a practice derogatory to their honourable rank as directors, and in many ways inconsistent with the common weal of the East-India Company, or the general interests of the Proprietors of East-India Stock, independent of the pernicious effects which the present system of self-election may yet have on the welfare of British India, and on the renewal of the Company’s charter connected with that vast empire.”

Col. L. Stanhope seconded the motion.

Dr. Gilchrist.—The present system had prevailed too long; and he trusted that the Court of Directors themselves would make some generous and fair regulation on the subject. He hoped he had not given offence by the wording of the resolution

lution, from which it would appear that he did not wish to take the matter out of their hands. If the Court of Directors acted in the way—

The *Chairman*.—"The motion having been seconded, the learned proprietor must be supposed to have concluded what he mean to say in support of it. He cannot speak further on the subject till he comes to reply."

Dr. *Gilchrist* only meant to observe that the court, on a former occasion, had done itself great credit by the way in which it gave its support to an institution proposed by Lord Amherst. It was a very useful institution, and he had found it necessary to call the attention of the Court of Proprietors to it; he found afterwards that that institution had been fostered, in consequence of orders sent out to India by the Court of Directors. He was, in consequence, contented to leave this subject in their hands.

Mr. *R. Jackson* said, the learned doctor had placed himself (Mr. J.) and several other gentlemen, who had paid considerable attention to this subject, in an awkward predicament, in consequence of the peculiar structure of the motion which he had submitted to the court. In that motion, the learned doctor had attributed some half-dozen of consequences, or probable consequences, to the existing system connected with the annual election of directors; but he founded his application to the court principally on an alleged breach of the by-laws. The learned doctor contended, "that the directors were guilty of a breach of the law, in sending round, periodically, a recommendation in favour of particular persons." He was not prepared on such an occasion to argue the existence or the non-existence of the evils which the learned proprietor attributed to the system; but he must take leave to say, that whenever it should be deemed wise and necessary to look this part of the practice in the face, and to ask whether or not twenty-four directors telling the other proprietors for whom they should vote, was not only a breach of the constitution of the Company, but at least a virtual departure from the by-law, which declared, "that on no pretence shall any director interfere, either directly or indirectly, with the freedom of election,"—when that time arrived, he should be ready to deliver his opinion. He now wished the court to look back for a few moments to the history of the particular by-law to which the learned proprietor had alluded. For many years, with the exception of a few words, that by-law had existed as it now stood. Some years back, however, it had been found necessary to alter it, and it had then assumed its present form. It was well known that the candidates at elec-

tions for directors were obliged to defray, amongst other enormous expenses, the expense of long journies, performed in post-chaises, by proprietors who came from different parts of the country to vote. Even individuals possessed of large fortunes did not feel their pride wounded or their dignity offended by the payment of that expense; at length, there appeared to be something so mean, so base, low, and groveling, in the practice, that it was determined to put an end to it; and he believed that his friend Mr. Howorth was the author of the resolution which overthrew a practice so very contemptible. He introduced a fresh provision in the by-law, by which it was declared, that if any person procured votes by paying money under the pretence of defraying any travelling expenses that might be incurred by a proprietor, or under any other pretence whatever, such person should be disqualified to act as a director. Such was the history of the altered law. With respect to the custom of the recommendation of candidates by the directors, it had long existed, and formerly to a greater extent than at present. A few years since, not merely at the general election, but at every election, when a vacancy occurred, they would recommend A in preference to B. That intervention had, however, been prevented, after it had continued for a considerable number of years. By degrees, the proprietors began to get a little more solicitous about their privileges, and the proceedings of the committee of by-law, which had previously passed unheeded, became an object of interest and inquiry. He well recollected the time when that committee was a mere shadow—a name—a thing that existed scarcely in form, and not in substance. It was jocosely called "the committee of yellow admirals;" it even comprized the names of men who were dead, as well as of those who were alive; for, strange as it might appear, he remembered dead men on their committee of by-laws: indeed, the most eminent qualification for a seat in it was, the not caring one farthing about the duties that were attached to it, and an implied undertaking never to attend. But it had so happened within the last twenty years, that on two occasions a vigorous and efficient committee of by-laws was chosen; and it occurred to them, that many improvements might be made in the practice of elections. The consequence was, that a by-law was passed, directing a list of all the candidates for the direction, whether new or old, in alphabetical order, to be published thirty days before the annual election. Every part of the system was examined, several of the then existing abuses

abuses were subdued, and many beneficial alterations were made; but the practice which still continued, of twenty-four directors sending forth their united signatures in favour of six gentlemen annually was suffered to remain for the present. A hard trial was indeed made to remove that practice also, and not a few thought it would be a very good thing to get rid of it. But Mr. Howorth, taking the view of a philosopher and a statesman, said, "Proceed not precipitately: we have done much; let us not attempt to grasp the whole. We have prevented the directors, on intermediate occasions, when a single vacancy occurs, from saying we approve of A instead of B; and we have now a regular alphabetical list, containing the names of all the candidates qualified by law to stand at the election, and that is the only list allowed in the court-room." He was now desirous to say, that whenever this subject should become a question of grave inquiry, he hoped he should not be considered or understood as committed in any way with respect to it, because he could not vote for a motion so wide and voluminous as that before the court. Let him not be understood, either by inference or implication, to admit that it was consistent with their charter or the by-law, that twenty-four directors should address the proprietors in favour of six candidates. He would not vote for this motion, neither would he impeach it; but he should meet the question, whenever it came fairly and tangibly before them, with all the attention which its importance deserved; and should that day come, he would then state his opinion unreservedly.

The *Chairman*.—"I wish to make a remark or two in consequence of what the learned gentleman (Mr. R. Jackson) has said with respect to the house list. The list is not a house list in the sense which has been described; it is a list signed certainly by the directors, but it is not, be it observed, signed in the Court of Directors. We sign it," continued the hon. gentleman, "as proprietors of East-India stock; we do not issue it as a Court of Directors, but as the recommendation of a number of gentlemen holding stock. I must on this occasion take the liberty of adverting to what is the custom of other associated bodies. The proprietors of other companies meet together and put forth, when they please, recommendations in favour of individuals to fill particular situations. Now I should think it extremely hard if we alone were to be shut out from doing that, which we conceive to be our duty; namely, the speaking favourably of gentlemen whom we think, from the experience we have had during their previous

service in the direction, eminently qualified for that high office. The custom of recommending an individual to a seat in the direction, when a separate vacancy occurs, has been discontinued for a long while. I believe the last time that practice was resorted to, it was for the purpose of bringing in a gentleman (Mr. Twining), who fully justified the opinion entertained of his qualifications, and whose son I now see in the court. I shall certainly oppose the motion, which is quite informal, and in my view unnecessary.

Mr. R. Jackson.—What the hon. Chairman has stated was no answer to his observations. On the contrary, the hon. Chairman had absolutely admitted the evasion of the law to which he had adverted. The hon. Chairman said, "we don't sign the recommendation as directors of the East-India Company, but merely as twenty-four proprietors, and the only difference between it and the recommendation of any other proprietors is the accident of its being signed in the India-House. When this question should come to be discussed, if there were any argument more strong than another to prove that the practice ought to cease, it was that twenty-four directors, having nothing to do with the election more than other proprietors, sent out from that house a signed official recommendation. Would this, or would it not, have an influence on the proprietors? The question would hereafter arise, whether this practice was, or was not, consistent with the by-law. There was no analogy between the East-India Company and any other that could be named; it existed under peculiar laws. The case of the Bank of England was quite a different one. In the Bank of England the house-list was not so objectionable; because it was a mere money corporation, and where extensive money transactions were carried on, it was necessary that every precaution should be taken to guard against the admissions of adventurers.

Colonel Stanhope rose to order. The hon. and learned gentleman was not making an explanation, but a second speech.

Mr. R. Jackson admitted the correctness of the remark, and would shew his sense of it by sitting down, after making only one further observation.

Col. Stanhope.—"Is that observation to be in explanation? If it is, go on; if not, I stop you on the spot."—(Hear, hear!)

Mr. R. Jackson.—The court, and not his gallant friend, would decide whether or not he was out of order. He would not then trespass further on their attention than by observing, that when the time came he would be prepared to shew the

the propriety of the arguments he had adduced on the subject.

Mr. Lowndes defended the principle of the house-list. The practice was a common one in other cases of a very important character. Nothing was more common than for men of influence in a county, to recommend particular individuals to represent that county, though it did not follow that that recommendation implied the use of undue influence. In the same way, the directors gave their recommendation in favour of some gentleman whom they deemed qualified to take a seat in the direction; but it did not follow from that, that they forced any improper person upon the proprietors, who alone had the power of deciding. He was as much opposed as any member of that court could be, to the exercise of any undue influence over the votes of proprietors; and for that reason he had made it a rule, never to accept an invitation to any of the dinners given by the directors. The only occasion on which he had ever deviated from that rule, was once when he was invited by an hon. director then in court. On that occasion, he said he had no objection to dine provided he was allowed to pay for his dinner; and the fact was he did give a guinea, which he believed was afterwards put into the marine box. For the truth of the statement he appealed to the hon. director himself.

Mr. Masterman observed, that it was true the hon. proprietor did object to dining unless he was allowed to pay for his dinner; but as the money could not be received for that purpose, and as the hon. gentlemen insisted upon paying it, the money was taken by the Chairman and put into the marine box. As far as that testimony was necessary he willingly gave it, as a proof of the hon. gentleman's motives, which nobody disputed.

Mr. Lowndes said he opposed the present motion, because he objected to that sweeping system of reformation, which seemed to be the order of the present day. He did not approve of giving way in every thing to what was called the "march of intellect." It was this march of intellect which was alleged as a reason for the establishment of the press in India. If that had been carried into operation, it would lead to the oppression and ruin of India; and he for one, if such a thing ever took place, would immediately sell out his interest in the Company, as thinking it no longer a safe mode of embarking property.

Mr. Wigram here rose to order. The hon. proprietor he submitted, was getting quite wide of the question before the court.

Mr. Lowndes contended that he was in order. The question before the court

was one of reformation, and he had a right to dwell on the consequences of reformation in general. He would contend that the great evil which had befallen Europe for the last five and thirty years, arose from the quick march of reformation. That march was so quick in many instances, that great rogues marched into office, while honest men marched out of it. On all these grounds he would give his opposition to the motion, and he hoped that the hon. gentleman would not press it.

Mr. Carruthers said, that at that late hour of the day he would not trespass for more than a few moments on the attention of the court. It had been said, that the house-list was contrary to a section of their by-laws. Now the section alluded to stated, that if any director by menaces or promises influenced the vote of a proprietor he was guilty of a misdemeanor, for which he was liable to the general court. The hon. proprietor who made this motion was bound to shew that the house list contained either a menace or a promise, or that the directors, in issuing it had in any way infringed upon the rights of the proprietors. As he had not shewn that, he would oppose the motion.

The Chairman said, from the course the argument had taken, it would appear that the discussion was upon an alleged breach of the by-laws. If that was the case, the present was not the mode of discussing it. If any breach of the by-laws was supposed to have taken place, it should be made the subject of a specific motion.

Dr. Gilchrist said, that after what had passed he had no objection to withdraw the motion, with the leave of the court. The discussion would do much good, and in that respect his object would be answered.

Mr. Twining said, that from what took place when this subject was before the court on a former occasion, he did not expect that it would again be made the subject of a motion here. On that occasion, he had given an opinion as to the construction of the by-law, and since then he had consulted the committee of by-laws and stated to them what was his interpretation of that particular section; and the committee had all concurred with him in thinking, that the practice of issuing a house list was not, directly or indirectly, an infringement of any by-law. However, if any hon. member still thought that the law in question was infringed by the practice alluded to, the committee would be ready to give the subject their best attention, if the matter were referred to them.

Sir C. Forbes said, that when this question was before the court on a former occasion,

occasion, he had expressed his opinion, that the practice of the house list was not against the letter of the by-laws; but the question was, whether it was not against the spirit of those laws. He had also said, what he then begged to repeat, that the practice, such as it was, would be much more honoured in the breach than the observance. The main argument relied upon in defence of the practice was, that the directors recommended, not as directors, but as so many proprietors. Now that that was not the fact, was proved by the circumstance, that in the addresses of some of the candidates so recommended these words were used, "having the honour to be recommended by the Court of Directors," &c. &c. Then he must contend that that was not a practice decorous in the Court of Directors. He did not mean to say that improper persons were thus introduced into the direction, for he admitted that many honourable and useful men had come in by such support; but he could not admit the propriety of directors attending public meetings called to support the interests of particular candidates. It was perfectly well known that no member of the ex-directors behind the bar ran any risk of not being returned, provided he deserved it. (*Hear, hear!*) If he had discharged his duty faithfully to the proprietors, there would be no doubt of his return. He did not think it right that some directors should exert themselves as directors in favour of one particular candidate, while other directors exerted themselves in favour of another. It reminded him of a case which had occurred some time ago, of a gentleman who went as candidate for a borough, and produced to some of the principal electors a letter from one secretary of the Treasury, while a gentleman who was his rival in the contest also produced a strong recommendatory letter from another secretary of the Treasury. (*Hear! and a laugh.*)

PATRONAGE OF THE COURT OF DIRECTORS.

The *Chairman* called the attention of the court to the next subject for discussion which stood on the books, and the clerk, by his order, read the following motion, of which notice had been given on a former day by Colonel Stanhope.

"That the proprietors of East-India stock view with alarm the extent of their debt, and the increased and increasing patronage, which places more than half a million's worth of annual appointments at the disposal of their directors.

"That Mr. Dundas, a celebrated president of the Board of Control, declared that the patronage of British India was of itself sufficient, if transferred to the King's Government, to corrupt both houses of Parliament, and to render the power of an ambitious minister superior to that of the crown.

"That, though the dread of this extensive system of corruption was sufficient to upset Mr. Fox's India bill, and his administration, and to change, perhaps, the course of events in Europe, still the proprietors observe, that a vast portion of this patronage is actually vested in the hands of their directors.

"That this court cannot expect to escape untainted from that influence which was considered by the King and Peers of England as sufficient to destroy the constitution; and that, with a view to avoid all this evil they recommend,

"That all writerships, cadetships, surgeons, and other appointments, should be openly sold to properly educated and qualified persons, and that the amount of such purchase-money be applied to a sinking fund, for the purpose of gradually liquidating the existing India debt, which must, otherwise, eventually be added to the debt of the nation."

Col. *L. Stanhope* then addressed the court on the subject of his motion. He began by saying that he rose for the purpose of proving to the court, that the directors were in possession of patronage to the amount of half a million a year, and that the interests of the state required that that patronage should be sold;—first, to do away with the monopoly of power and place, which, though belonging to the whole Company, had been absorbed by a few of its body;—secondly, to lessen that enormous burthen on the state, already amounting to the sum of 957 millions, and which must, if the most rigid economy were not adopted, lead to bankruptcy and ruin; and thirdly, to diminish the means of corruption, to which so many temptations existed under the present system. He was aware that the immense patronage of the directors was the great objection to Mr. Fox's India bill; that patronage occasioned the rejection of the bill, and produced one of the most memorable epochs in the history of Europe. Of this patronage it had been said by Mr. Dundas, the father of the present Lord Melville, one who knew the Company, and its power and influence, better than any other man, that in addition to the power already possessed by the crown, it was more than sufficient to corrupt both houses of Parliament, and destroy the constitution itself; that in the hands of an ambitious prime minister, that patronage might be used so as to place him beyond the control of the throne. He would now come to the question of the immediate value of the patronage in the hands of the directors. He would be able to prove that a writership was worth £5,000; and that every cadetship was worth from £800 to £1,000. He need only refer to the well-known case in which a writership had been exchanged for a seat in Parliament. Lord Castlereagh would not allow that question to be further gone into, because he observed that such things were as notorious as the sun at noon-day. How-

ever much they might admire the coolness with which his Lordship made this avowal, they could not pass over the observation made upon it by the then Speaker of the House of Commons, that the practice would have made our forefathers startle in their graves. The value of a writership, he had said, was £5,000, nor would any person consider that as an over-value, when they recollected the manner in which those writers lived in India; they had their establishments like princes; large retinues of servants, they were allowed three years' leave of absence to Europe, during which they had £500 a year out of the funds of the Company, and after the period of their service had expired, £1,000 a year for life, in addition to the immense wealth they had the means of accumulating while they were employed. This statement of a writership being worth £5,000 a year seemed to make their hon. Chairman wince in his seat, but he would establish the fact beyond the possibility of doubt. Next to the writerships he would mention the appointment of chaplains, each of which he considered worth £1,000. This could not be considered an over-statement, if they reflected on the very large emoluments of those chaplains while on actual service, and the fact that they were allowed £365 a year after a service of fifteen years. It was not, then, too much to say that they were worth £1,000. Next came the appointments of military officers or cadets, each of which he reckoned to be worth £1,000. He was not for any clipping or petty economy, and did not mean to say that the emoluments of the military officers ought to be reduced, but he dealt with the fact as he found it. It was well known that the officers in the Company's service received double pay, and that after twenty-two years' service they received a retiring allowance equal to the full pay of the king's service.

Mr. Lowndes.—“Don't they buy their commissions?”

Col. Stanhope said he would come to that. The price of a commission in the king's service, when the officers did not possess the same emoluments, was: for that of cornet or ensign, from £500 to £1,200; for lieutenant, from £700 to £1,700; for a captain's commission, from £1,800 to £3,500; and for that of lieut.col., from £4,500 to £9,000. These were the prices by the regulation of the service; but it was well known that, when disposed of privately, they frequently fetched one-third more. From these prices of commissions in the king's service, he was perfectly warranted in the conclusion that a cadetship in the Company's was worth £1,000. As to the surgeons, he thought that they were but very

ill paid by the Company, and that they did not receive rank or emolument at all proportioned to their services; but still he was not beyond the mark when he valued each appointment of a surgeon in the Company's service at £1,000. He now would come to a statement which would make the hon. Chairman wince a little more. Taking the prices at which he had estimated the different appointments he had named, he would be able to prove to the satisfaction of that court, that the value of the patronage possessed by each and every one of the twenty-four directors was not less than £22,583 a year (*a laugh*)—a sum more than twice as much as was paid the President of the United States of North America, the chief magistrate of a nation consisting of more than ten millions of people, and twice as much as was lately given very reluctantly to his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence, the heir presumptive to the throne. He would now read for the court a calculation of the value of the patronage of their directors for five years, beginning in the year 1821. He would state the number of appointments which took place in each year, and what they were sold for.

Mr. Twining rose to order. The gallant officer must be perfectly aware that these appointments were not sold.

Mr. Lowndes.—The gallant officer, he supposed, meant that they were given for money's worth, and that was equal to money.

Col. Stanhope would not say they were sold; that had nothing to do with his argument; all he wanted to show was, what those appointments would be worth if sold.

In the year 1821 there were 44 writerships filled up; these he valued at £220,000
361 Cadetships 361,000
56 Surgeons 56,000
6 Chaplains..... 6,000

Total appointments in 1821, £643,000

In 1822 there were appointments made to
41 Writerships £205,000
158 Cadetships 158,000
28 Surgeons 28,000
10 Chaplains..... 10,000

Total appointments in 1822, £401,000

In 1823 there were appointments made to
24 Writerships £120,000
351 Cadetships 351,000
27 Surgeons 27,000
7 Chaplains..... 7,000

Total appointments in 1823, £505,000

In 1824 the appointments made were	
35 Writerships	£175,000
285 Cadetships	285,000
28 Surgeons	28,000
11 Chaplains.....	11,000

Total in that year £499,000

In 1825 there were appointments made to	
42 Writerships	£210,000
403 Cadetships	403,000
44 Surgeons	44,000
5 Chaplains.....	5,000

Total in that year £662,000

Total amount of appoint- }
ments in five years ... } £2,710,000

being an average of appointments amounting to £542,000 in each year, and making the yearly value of the patronage of each director to be what he had said, £22,583. But this was not all: besides these, there were the appointments of bishops, judges, lawyers, home and foreign agents and attorneys, some of them making £15,000 a year by their practice; the professorships at Addiscombe and Haileybury, in addition to 2,500 snug appointments in the India-House itself! there were also contracts for shipping, for stores, for army clothing, paper, and many other things which became the sources of immense profit.

Mr. *Lowndes* asked if these things were not managed by a Board?

Col. *Stanhope* said he hoped so; but while he saw such a monopoly of place and patronage exercised by a few men in the Company which ought to be distributed for the benefit of the community at large, he would, as long as he could raise his voice in that court, raise it in favour of the rights of the people. The amount of the patronage at the present moment was much greater than that which was contemplated by Mr. Fox's India Bill; and although there were now a governor general and a council abroad, and a Board of Control at home, still the influence of the directors extended itself, and was, as he had stated, not less than half a million a year. He did not mean to deny that the twenty-four or twenty-three men who exercised this influence were honourable men, perhaps the last as much so as all the rest: but he would contend that the influence was too great to be left to the disposal of any one body of men. Now the remedy which he would propose for the evils of this monopoly of the twenty-four, at an annual loss of half a million to the public, would be the public sale of all the appointments under the Company to persons competent to fill them. The great objects of the Company should be to procure servants of probity,

talent, knowledge, and active virtue; that might be done by the course which he proposed first, let a list be published of the appointments vacant, and then let the candidates be examined before a probationary committee, a sort of jury of instructors, men well skilled in the languages, in theology, in law, surgery, the art of war and the polite arts, and let the proficiency of the candidates be decided by the examiners. The expense of the examination to be defrayed by the candidates. It might be said, in objection to this plan, that it would tend to discourage the timid man of merit; this he begged to deny—timidity might be the accompaniment of talent, but it was not the source of it, and the man who could not show his proficiency before such a court of examiners, was altogether unfit for the service. Another objection might be, that this plan would exclude the unopulent, and place all the appointments solely at the disposal of the wealthy; so it might, but the unopulent were already excluded as much as they would be in the other case. At all events, it was certain that plan would be the saving of half a million to those who really were the unopulent of the country. Another advantage attending this plan would be, by reducing the power of the twenty-four monopolists, it would diminish the means of corruption; as the facility of corruption must be reduced by diminishing the means. It might also be objected, perhaps, that if unopulent men were employed in the Company's service, it would lead to depredations; but he contended that, if opulent or otherwise, there would be depredations, provided the benefit were greater than the risk of detection. It might also be objected, that his project would make money the test of merit; this undoubtedly would be the case, if the sale was allowed to take place without examination of the candidates, but with such an examination as he had suggested, it would be impossible that an unfit man could get into the service of the Company. This plan of the sale of places was not without precedent; the instance was well known of the Duke of Cumberland, in the reign of George II., allowing some old officers in the army to sell out their commissions; that was the commencement of the practice which had continued down to the present time, and was now allowed on a very extensive scale; and he had never yet heard of any bad consequences springing from the practice; he had understood that it was to be permitted to a certain extent in the navy. Had he not, then, he would ask, made out a sufficient case? Were not places in the City sold constantly? The only evils that would attend the practice would be, the want of examination.

nation. If competent men were chosen to discharge the duties, that was all the public could require, and they would gain by the amount of the prices paid. He would now call the attention of the court to the next branch of the question, namely, the necessity of making such an addition to the public finances. He would, in the first place, contend that the debt of England and of India were one. The Company could not have contracted a debt to the present amount unless a guarantee had been given by the government, and by the government it must ultimately be paid. The progress of the Company's debt in the last forty years was most rapid: in the year 1778 it was five millions; in the year 1790 it was nine millions; in the year 1799 it was £12,800,000; in the year 1810 it had increased to thirty-five millions, and in the year 1822 it was nearly thirty-eight millions; and yet during all these periods they had Governors General abroad, and the directors at home, boasting of the balance of revenue above expenditure, and paying dividends of eight per cent., and while thus boasting of the prosperity of the Company generally, their servants abroad and at home were launching deeper and deeper in the boundless ocean of debt. Instead, too, of establishing a sinking fund, as proposed, of one million for the extinction of the debt, and of paying to government the yearly sum of £500,000 as an accumulation fund for the security of the whole, instead of this, he repeated that they allowed their debt to increase to the enormous sum of thirty-eight millions. To talk of being able to meet all the demands upon them by a permanent peace, while they were surrounded by millions of enemies, was downright nonsense. The debt and danger to the Company would, he feared, continue to increase, unless the proprietors were roused to a sense of their duty. How could it be expected that they would be roused, while their dividends were paid just the same, whether the affairs of the Company were prosperous or otherwise? With a national debt of 897 millions, and an India debt of 38 millions, which would go on increasing each successive year, it would be necessary to mortgage a greater portion of national revenue than could be spared, and the result must be national bankruptcy. In order to impress upon the court the necessity of taking such measures as will prevent the recurrence of a similar calamity in this country, he would read an extract from the works of that great philosopher, historian, and political economist, Mr. Hume. In his *Essay upon Public Credit*, he had the following remarks.

“Let the time come (and surely it will come),

when the new funds, created for the exigencies of the year, are not subscribed to, and raise not the money projected:—Suppose either, that the cash of the nation is exhausted; or that our faith, which has hitherto been so ample, begins to fail us:—Suppose that, in this distress, the nation is threatened with an invasion; a rebellion is suspected, or broken out at home; a squadron cannot be equipped for want of pay, victuals, or repairs; or even a foreign subsidy cannot be advanced:—What must a prince or minister do in such an emergency? The right of self-preservation is unalienable in every individual, much more in every community; and the folly of our statesmen must then be greater than the folly of those who first contracted debt, or, what is more, than that of those who trusted, or continue to rust this security. If these statesmen have the means of safety in their hands, and do not employ with them the funds created and mortgaged, will by that time bring in a large yearly revenue, sufficient for the defence and security of the nation:—Money is perhaps lying in the Exchequer ready for the discharge of the quarterly interest:—necessity calls, fear urges, reason exhorts, compassion alone exclaims:—The money will immediately be seized for the current service, under the most solemn protestations, perhaps, of being immediately replaced. But no more is requisite. The whole fabric, already tottering, falls to the ground, and buries thousands in its ruins. And this, I think, may be called the *natural death* of public credit; for to this period it tends as naturally as an animal body to its dissolution and destruction.”

And farther on Mr. Hume says—

“These two events supposed above are calamitous, but not the most calamitous. Thousands are thereby sacrificed to the safety of millions. But we are not without danger that the contrary event may take place, and that millions may be sacrificed for ever to the temporary safety of thousands. Our popular government perhaps will render it difficult or dangerous for a minister to venture on so desperate an expedient as that of a voluntary bankruptcy. And though the House of Lords be altogether composed of proprietors of land, and the House of Commons chiefly; and consequently neither of them can be supposed to have great property in the funds; yet the connexions of the members may be so great with the proprietors, as to render them more tenacious of public faith than prudence, policy, or even justice, strictly speaking, requires. And, perhaps, too, our foreign enemies may be so politic as to discover that our safety lies in despair, and may not, therefore, shew the danger, open and barefaced, till it be inevitable. The balance of power in Europe, our grandfathers, our fathers, and we, have all deemed too unequal to be preserved without our attention and assistance. But our children, weary of the struggle, and fettered with incumbrances, may sit down secure, and see their neighbours oppressed and conquered; till, at last, they themselves and their creditors be both at the mercy of the conqueror. And this may properly enough be denominated the *violent death* of our public credit.

“These seem to be the events which are not very remote, and which reason foresees as clearly almost as she can do any thing that lies in the womb of time. And though the ancients maintained that, in order to reach the gift of prophecy, a certain divine fury or madness was requisite, one may safely affirm that, in order to deliver such prophecies as these, no more is necessary than merely to be in one's senses, free from the influence of popular madness and delusion.”

Mr. Lowndes begged to ask in what year was this written?

Col. Stanhope.—“About eighty years ago.” The gallant officer was proceeding, when he was again interrupted by

Mr. Lowndes, who observed that his reason for asking was, that to his knowledge Mr. Hume had contended, in opposition to Mr. Cobbett, that the national debt should be paid to the last shilling. (The mistake of the hon. proprietor, in confounding

confounding the name of Hume the historian with that of the hon. member for Aberdeen, convulsed the court with laughter.)

Col. *Stanhope* resumed. He thanked the hon. member for the interruption, for it gave him time to take a little breath. The prophecy which he had read to them had, thank God, not been completed, owing to our industry, and to our machinery, and to our great naval superiority; but still it could not be denied, that our agricultural and commercial interests had been much shaken in the last few years, and that England in the present moment was swarming with paupers. That was our decline, and our fall must follow, unless those financial reforms, which the promise of Mr. Canning had given them reason to expect, should have the effect of relieving the country from many of its burthens. The court, he thought, were bound to give their assistance on this emergency. They had the means in their power, by recommending the adoption of his plan, by which they would save half a million a year. They would thus be the means of assisting their country, and strengthening the power of the Company in India; and it was from a conviction that the mode he pointed out would have that effect, that he earnestly called upon the court to make this sacrifice. He could assure them that he was actuated by no party feeling in bringing this question forward; he acted solely from what he conceived to be a conscientious discharge of his duty. He would now read his motion, and would so shape it to meet any objection that might be made on the ground that the court had no power to comply with it. He then moved the resolutions of which he had given notice (and which are given at the head of this discussion).

Mr. *Lowndes* said he rose to second the motion. The hon. and gallant officer had read to the court a quotation from Mr. Hume, and he was sorry that hon. gentleman was not present to give his own opinion on the point. (*Hear, and laughter*.) He would admit that there had been many abuses in the Company which had since been corrected; such as the return of men for pay and clothing who were dead. He also disapproved of the practice of making colonels of regiments the clothiers of those regiments, but that had now been done away with, and with great good effect; and if one reformation had produced so much good, he did not see why another might not be adopted. As to the sale of commissions, he did not see why the practice should not be adopted in the service of the Company as it was adopted elsewhere. Sir W. Draper, in Junius's Letters, had said, "God forbid that the sons of men

of rank and fortune should be shut out from the power of purchasing commissions in the army." Some of the great evils which arose from the French revolution, arose from the abolition of the sale of commissions in the army, by which the very lowest ranks in society got possession of commissions; and from that cause arose many of the dreadful effects which attended the progress of the French troops. He would contend, then, that from the sale of commissions many advantages had arisen. As to writerships, he would not say that they were sold for money; but it could not be denied that they were exchanged for what they were worth. For instance, one man had a presentation to a living of £700 or £800 a year, and his son wished to go abroad, while the son of his friend was disposed to remain at home. Nothing was more easy than to exchange the writership in the gift of the one for the presentation at the disposal of the other. This was an easy way of cheating the devil with a safe conscience. He did not see, then, any harm in the sale of writerships; for he could not conceive any objection to having that done openly, which it was well known was now done in a covert way. He did not, however, agree in the proposition of the gallant officer, that appointments of chaplains should be sold. Chaplains were God's servants, and they should serve from pure motives, and not purchase their situations. Neither could he agree that appointments of surgeons should be sold: because, by the sale of those appointments, blockheads might be substituted for clever men. He would also object to the sale of clerkships in the Company's service; for if such men bought their situations, they would make the Company "pay in the meal, if not in the malt;" in fact, they would have it out of the Company in some way or other; if they once employed clerks who bought their appointments, they would have men in office who must be corrupt almost from necessity. He voted for this motion out of consideration for the public fundholder: he did so disinterestedly, for he had not a shilling in the public funds; but he thought that every thing which could be done to secure the payment of the fundholder ought to be accomplished. If it were not for the liberality of the fundholder, we should have been long since a French province. The fundholders in Europe were the real anti-Buonapartists: they advanced the money which enabled this country to carry on the war which destroyed the power of Napoleon. He entirely disapproved of what had fallen from the gallant officer as to what he called an equitable adjustment. The argument for it was most jesuitical, and the fact would be most injurious

injurious to the public. (*Cries of question, question!*) He contended he had a right to speak on this point. The question was one of the utmost importance; and though it might be inconvenient to the directors to remain, they should recollect that they were the servants of the Company, and ought to treat that court with more respect.

The *Chairman* said, that he had no wish to interrupt the hon. proprietor, but he must express his wish (which he was sure was the wish of the court) that he would confine himself to the question before it.

Mr. *Lowndes* said he should be sorry the *Chairman's* roasted goose should be spoiled, but if it were so, he could not help it. He must repeat that he disapproved of any mention of the terms equitable adjustment. He would not much further trespass on the attention of the court, and would conclude by voting for the motion, but only in part, for there were some parts of that motion to which he could not accede. He was aware of the impatience of some hon. proprietors, and he was convinced that it arose from the fear of the Court of Directors losing any of their patronage; but if the question was to add to that patronage, no doubt the members who were now so impatient would be perfectly silent. It was a long time since he had been in that court, and he had come there that day for the purpose of supporting the present motion. He must again repeat his opinion, that Mr. Hume had never supported the question of an equitable adjustment, as he knew that he had opposed Mr. Cobbett on that question, and insisted that the debt should be paid to the last shilling.—(*Much laughter.*)

Colonel *Stanhope* said he was glad to hear such sentiments as had fallen from the hon. proprietor, after the miserable quibbling they had heard about the 18th section of the by-laws.

Mr. *Twining* rose to order. He was sure that the observation of the hon. and gallant officer was not called for by any thing that had fallen from him upon the subject of the by-law to which he alluded.

Colonel *Stanhope* said that he was far from imputing any thing of quibble to the hon. proprietor who had risen.

The *Chairman* said that he should not have felt it necessary to address the court but for one or two observations of the gallant officer which seemed particularly directed to him, and of which he now called for an explanation. The hon. and gallant officer had said, in alluding to the question of patronage, that the *Chairman* had winced, and, in another part of his address, he said he would make him wince more. Now he must say

that, in any question respecting patronage, or in any other question connected with his duties in that court, he had nothing to wince for (*hear!*), and therefore he hoped the gallant Colonel would explain what he meant by the allusion.—(*Hear, hear!*)

Colonel *Stanhope* said, that in the use of the term he alluded to a look which the *Chairman* gave whilst he made the observation, and to that he had applied the term *wincing*; but he could assure him that he had meant it in no offensive sense, for there was no member of that court for whom he had a higher respect, and he believed no man discharged his duties more honourably and faithfully.

The *Chairman* said that he would now put the question, leaving it to the decision of the court without offering one word upon it.

Colonel *Stanhope* said he wished to explain one part which seemed to be misunderstood by the hon. proprietor who seconded the motion, with respect to the situation of the chaplains. It was well known that situations as chaplains were sold in this country.

Mr. *Lowndes* said he was sorry for it; it was a practice which ought not to exist.

Colonel *Stanhope* said that there was another point in the speech of the hon. proprietor which he wished to explain. The hon. proprietor had supposed him to defend an equitable adjustment. He had done no such thing; he had alluded to what was called the equitable adjustment of the French revolution, by no means approving it; and he had quoted a passage from Hume, in which that writer had supposed a horrible case, when the country might be in a condition not to pay the public creditor, and when the funds for that purpose might be applied to other purposes.

The *Chairman* then put the question; which was negatived by a large show of hands, there being only three hands held up in the affirmation.

Mr. *Twining* said that, on the part of his friend (Mr. Lt. Jackson), who was obliged to leave the court at four o'clock, he postponed some questions which that learned gentleman intended to put.

BISHOPS IN INDIA.

Mr. *Poynder* wished to know whether the directors would have any objection to produce some correspondence which had taken place with the Board of Control as to the establishment of bishoprics in India? It was well known that one bishop was not sufficient to discharge the duties of the immense district over which he presided, and he believed the last Bishop of Calcutta had fallen a sacrifice to his exertion

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to discharge duties which were much too heavy for any one individual.

The *Chairman* said that no correspondence such as that the hon. proprietor alluded to existed. The establishment of one bishop was still to be kept up, and the appointment occasioned by the death of the late bishop had been filled up.

Dr. *Gilchrist*, on the part of an hon. proprietor (Gen. Thornton, we believe), gave notice of a motion for an account of the expenses incurred by the holding of an extra general court at the request of a number of proprietors; and also of the expense of a ballot demanded by a number of proprietors.

Dr. *Gilchrist* again, on the part of an hon. proprietor (Capt. Maxfield), wished to put a few questions to the *Chairman*, which that gentleman would have put had he been enabled to remain in court. The first question was: what was the amount of commission to supracargoes in China, paid or reserved for the past year, and the number of supracargoes entitled to share in such commission?

The *Chairman* said, that the amount was £6,963. 6s. 4d., which was divided among twelve supracargoes.

Dr. *Gilchrist* asked what was present amount of the sinking fund for the redemption of the principal of the debts of the Nabob of the Carnatic, and the amount which had been already applied to that purpose?

The *Chairman* said that the amount of the sinking fund was £1,914,352, and that no portion of it had yet been applied to the payment of the principal debt.

Mr. *Lowndes*.—"Are the commissioners of the Carnatic still in existence?"

The *Chairman*.—"Yes."

Mr. *Lowndes*.—"Do they receive a salary?"

The *Chairman*.—"Yes."

Mr. *Lowndes*.—"My reason for asking the question is, that some few hours ago Sir B. Hobhouse declared that he could no longer think of receiving a salary for doing nothing. I must ask, therefore, what those commissioners do for the salary they receive?"

The *Chairman*.—"The investigation is conducted by commissioners appointed under an Act of Parliament; and a report is annually made to Parliament of their progress."

The court then adjourned.

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HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, *June 21.*—*Real Property in India.*

Mr. *Fergusson* rose pursuant to notice, to call the attention of the house to a matter which he deemed of great importance as connected with the administration of the law in his Majesty's courts in the East-Indies. His object was to obtain a select committee, to whose consideration three points would be submitted. The first related to the law affecting landed property belonging to British subjects residing within the jurisdiction of those courts; he used the term "landed" in preference to "real" property, because it had been made a question, and it was one to which he meant to draw the attention of the house, whether a British subject could hold real property in India. For himself, he had no doubt upon the subject; for, to go no further back than the charter of the late King, granted to the Supreme Court of Bengal, it appeared that that charter gave power to the court to try all actions, real, personal, and mixed, against British subjects, and enabled the sheriff to seize and sell, for the satisfaction of the judgments of the court, the lands, houses, and effects, real and personal, of a defendant being a British subject. But doubts had certainly obtained on this subject, and the Supreme Court of Calcutta had been divided upon it, in a case which happened whilst he (Mr. *Fergusson*) practised at the bar; then one of the learned judges holding that such property was a chattel and not real estate in the hands of British subjects. The judgments of the Court of Bengal had been, however, uniform in establishing the point, that such property was real estate, modified by the charter, which made it saleable under writs of execution, and so far in the nature of a chattel; it had also been at all times held in the Supreme Court of Bengal, that lands and houses were assets in the hands of executors and administrators of British subjects deceased, for the payment of their debts generally. On this point no doubt had ever existed till lately, nor was there any difference of opinion upon it amongst those who considered property in lands and houses to be real estate, and those who deemed them to be a chattel interest only. In a late case, however, which came before the Supreme Court of Calcutta, the chief justice, of whose high character and talents he (Mr. *F.*) wished to speak with every respect, had held (as reported) that lands and houses were not assets in the hands of executors and administrators—a doc-

trine which, if established, would shake the title to every house and foot of land, almost without exception, within Calcutta; for there was scarcely a single title which, in one or more of its links, was not composed of a conveyance or conveyances from an executor or administrator. This opinion of the chief justice, although the majority of the court decided against it, had spread, as his (Mr. *F.*'s) letters expressed it, consternation throughout the presidency; and the rather, in that the chief justice had declared (as it was stated) from the bench, that he would not consider himself as bound by the precedent. The importance of this matter would appear, when it was considered that within the last twenty years, from the decaying state of the export trade of India, remittances could not be had but at the most ruinous rates, and that a large portion of the capital and wealth of British subjects and others, amounting to several millions sterling, had been invested in the purchase of lands and houses, or had been lent to persons speculating in such purchases, whereby there had been created, at a vast expense, one of the most magnificent cities in the world. But the interests of every landholder in Calcutta, and every creditor of a landholder, would be in jeopardy, should the doctrine of the chief justice (at variance with that of every other judge for more than fifty years, and with the invariable practice of the court and the profession during the same period,) be acted upon as law. The fear entertained on this subject might be considered to be the less groundless, as during a vacancy in the court, such as that which happened almost immediately after the judgment of the court in the case referred to, there being only two judges, the decision rested wholly with the chief justice. Mr. *Fergusson* said he had expected to receive before this time a copy of the opinion given by the chief justice, and also petitions which were in preparation on this important subject, in which case it was his intention to have moved at once for leave to bring in a bill to declare the law in this matter. He had not yet received those documents, but he trusted, that the house would be of opinion that it was matter fit to be referred to a committee, who might report, upon the examination of witnesses, what the law and the usage were, and also take into consideration the law and the usage at the other presidencies in India, where no difference of opinion, he believed, had existed on these points, on which however it was obviously important

tant to establish uniformity of decision. He would now proceed to the consideration of another point, not of less importance, as connected with the administration of the law in criminal cases in the King's courts in India. Those courts were four in number; he meant the courts of Oyer and Terminer and goal delivery, established at Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, and Prince of Wales' Island, having the same extensive jurisdiction in respect of crimes committed by British subjects, not merely within the local jurisdiction of those courts, but within a circle embracing almost one-half of the habitable globe. Now as the charter of the different courts of Oyer and Terminer had been granted at different periods, and as these charters brought with them the common law of England, and the statute law, as it stood at the respective periods of granting the charters, it followed, that the administration of the criminal law must be different in the different courts. With respect to the three supreme courts of India, established at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, it was now generally understood, that the English law was introduced into those settlements by the charter of George I. granted in the year 1726, and that no statute, passed since that period, extended to the British settlements in India, unless named expressly in such statute, or by direct and necessary implication. The charter of George I. created the mayors' courts for the determining of civil suits, and also constituted the governor and council of each settlement a court of Oyer and Terminer, but with much less extensive jurisdiction than the courts of that description now had. But the charter of George I. had been surrendered in the reign of George II., in the year 1753, and a new charter was granted; and in the year 1774 this latter charter, as to Bengal, was replaced by the charter granted to the present court, which was created a Supreme Court of Judicature. At the settlements of Madras and Bombay new charters were successively, and at different periods, granted first to the Records' Courts, and afterwards to the Supreme Courts of Judicature, as in Bengal. In the year 1807, the Recorder's Court was established at Prince of Wales's Island, having the same extensive criminal jurisdiction as the other courts. It was clear that the statute law of England was introduced for the first time at Prince of Wales's Island by the charter last mentioned, and so it was declared, at the opening of the court, by the very learned judge, who afterwards presided at the Court of Madras. A most important point arose in respect to the administration of criminal justice under these different charters, namely, whether, upon the surrender of the former charters

of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, the law continued to stand as it did at the time of the first Charter in 1726, or whether each renewal of charter introduced the enactments which had in the interval been made. The judges who tried Nundecomar must have been of the latter opinion, for Nundecomar was tried, convicted, and executed for forgery, made capital by statute long subsequent to the granting of the first charter. That precedent had not, however, been followed; and as forgery of the same nature as that for which Nundecomar was tried had since been made, by statute 53 Geo. III., a transportable misdemeanour, this last enactment might be considered as a legislative exposition of the law in that particular matter. But he (Mr. F.) had still heard doubts entertained by very learned persons as to the operation of the renewal of the different charters in the above respect; and, at all events, it was clear that a British subject, if tried at Prince of Wales's Island for the same offence committed within the same jurisdiction, would be tried by a different law from that by which a British subject would be tried at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. An offence under Lord Ellenborough's act, for instance, was capital if tried at Prince of Wales's Island, but was a misdemeanour only if tried at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay. The acts respecting the embezzlements of clerks and servants were in force at the former place, and the offence was there a transportable felony; at the other settlements it was a mere breach of trust. The same with respect to the statute of false pretences, which had no operation at Calcutta, Madras, or Bombay, but was a transportable misdemeanour at Prince of Wales's Island. Surely it was time to put an end to this monstrous anomaly. There was another point connected with this subject also of great importance. The general doctrine was, that even as to such parts of the statute law of England as extended to India, as far as respected the time of their enactment, the court must still determine as to their applicability. The Black Act, for instance, passed in the 9th of George I., extended to India; but all its provisions were as clearly not applicable to the state and circumstances of that country. This might give rise to a difference of construction in the different courts, and the judges ought, as far as practicable, to be relieved from so painful a duty as that which might be imposed upon them in this respect. These points would be well deserving of the best attention which the committee could bestow upon them. There was only one point more upon which he would trouble the house. The labours of the committee would necessarily be

be imperfect, if they were not to remove the uncertainty which appeared to exist as to the persons who were subject to the jurisdiction of the courts in question. In the acts of parliament, the terms employed were sometimes "British subjects," at others "subjects of his Majesty," and at others "subjects of his Majesty of Great Britain," or "his Majesty's European British subjects." The clause in the charter respecting juries, provided that persons serving on juries shall be subjects of his Majesty of Great Britain; but the term "subjects of his Majesty," generally, is used to denote the persons who are to be tried. He (Mr. F.) had known the case of an Armenian, born in Calcutta, who, as a King's subject, was held liable to the penalties of the law respecting usury; although beyond the boundaries of Calcutta he would, probably, not have been treated or considered as a British subject. What, then, were all the inhabitants of Calcutta, born in that settlement, and not Mahomedans or Hindoos? Were they British subjects, or not? or was there a distinction between those born in wedlock and those not so born? Every inhabitant of Bombay was, by the royal grant of Charles II. to the East-India Company, declared to have all the privileges and immunities of a natural subject and free denizen, as if he had been born in the kingdom of England. There was a large and growing population in India, consisting of persons of mixed blood, who were Christians, and whose state and condition could not but excite great interest. These persons, although Christians, were liable beyond the local jurisdiction of the King's courts, to be tried by the Mahomedan law, where the Moulavee, or Mahomedan law officer, was to expound the law, and to decide by his futwa on the life or death of a Christian. It was, happily, true that capital punishment could not be inflicted, unless the decision were confirmed by the highest criminal court, the Nizamut Adawlut; but the system itself was well worthy of consideration, although he (Mr. F.) admitted that it was a question which ought to be approached with great caution. The Christians of mixed blood, many of them persons of considerable property, had no law but the Mahomedan law to decide upon their civil rights, beyond the local jurisdiction of the King's courts. The succession to their estates was governed by the Mahomedan law. He saw no reason why the illegitimate children of such Christians might not succeed to their estates equally with the legitimate, or why such Christians might not indulge in plurality of wives, if the Mahomedan law was to be the rule by which their civil rights were to be governed. If they

were not British subjects, the ecclesiastical courts established in India had no power or authority over them, for their jurisdiction was expressly confined to British subjects. The hon. member said that he had only further to observe, that he had no wish that the committee, which he was about to propose, should interfere in any manner with the authority of the British Government in India, which he believed and knew to be a wise and beneficent Government over the natives of India. Mr. Fergusson concluded by moving, "that a select committee be appointed, to inquire and report on the law respecting landed property belonging to British subjects in the territories subject to the government of the East-India Company, and whether the same be liable, in the hands of their executors and administrators, to the payment of their simple contract debts; and also, what persons, as British subjects, are amenable to the jurisdiction of his Majesty's courts in the East-Indies, in respect of their persons and property, and what parts of the statute law of England extend, or ought to be extended, to the said territories, with a view to ensure uniformity of decision in the said courts."

Mr. C. W. Wynn expressed himself hostile to a motion which embraced such an extent and variety of objects. It was introduced at the very close of the session, when it was obviously impossible, if the committee were appointed, that it would be enabled to report on any one of the subjects which were comprised in the motion. But if it had been brought forward at the commencement, instead of the close of the session, still he could not have agreed to it. Amongst other things, the committee was to declare its opinion "whether landed property belonging to British subjects in the territories subject to the East-India Company, was liable, in the hands of administrators or executors, for the payment of simple contract debts." This was a question of law—a question for the decision of the law authorities; and the learned gentleman himself had stated that a difference of opinion existed amongst the Judges in India on that point. The Chief Justice, it appeared, was of one opinion, and the two puisne judges held the same opinion as the learned gentleman. But if the party against whom the decision was given felt himself aggrieved, an appeal to the Privy Council was still open to him. When a question of this kind was actually pending, was it regular to come before parliament, and to call for the judgment of a committee on the law? There were some points connected with the law which a committee might ascertain, and on which they might decide; but it was not their province to state what the law was.

To declare what the law ought to be—to point out how it might be reformed—was a very different thing. With respect to the meaning of the law, as to its operation on landed property, that was a fit subject for the consideration of the courts. As to the criminal law, it was a question of great importance, and it was highly desirable that a greater degree of uniformity should be introduced into it; but he did not think it by any means desirable that a committee of the House of Commons should be called on to effect that object. He should like to see the law altered and simplified, but that, perhaps, would be better effected by individual exertion, than by the labours of a committee.

Mr. Fergusson, in reply, said that the case decided in Calcutta, which had been referred to, might never come under appeal, and if it did, would not decide many other questions of great importance, and of some doubt, respecting the law of landed property in India; for instance, whether the widow was entitled to dower, and whether such dower was to have the preference or not over debts. Besides, this case, if decided upon appeal, would be a decision for the presidency of Bengal only, whereas it was his (Mr. F.'s) wish that the same law should be declared for all the territories subject to the different presidencies, and that a uniformity of decision should be ensured in all the courts, on this and on every other point connected with the administration of the law in India. He (Mr. F.) was not satisfied that any great change in the system of administering the law could be best effected by the exertion of individuals; he thought it could be better done by a committee or commission, with power to examine witnesses, than by private and personal intercourse only, although the latter would no doubt also be very valuable. At the late period of the session, however, as little progress could be made if a committee were to be appointed, he would, for that reason, and for that only, abstain from pressing his motion, with a full determination, however, to bring the matter forward early in the next session, should it not be taken up by some person more competent to do it justice. As far as depended on him (Mr. F.), he should not cease his endeavours for that end, until he saw the administration of justice in India made as perfect—he trusted it was as pure—as at home.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, June 18.

The King v. Prescott.—Mr. Kaye moved for a writ of *certiorari*, to remove into this court an indictment found at the Clerkenwell sessions against the defendant, who is an East-India Director,

for illegally disposing of the patronage of his office. The application was made to enable the defendant to have a special jury summoned upon his trial.—Rule granted.

PRIVY COUNCIL, June 23.

Appeal.—*The East-India Company, appellants v. Syed Ally and others, respondents.* This was an appeal from a decree of the Supreme Court at Madras made in a suit in equity instituted by the respondents as coheirs, according to the Mohammedan law, of their father Assim Khan deceased, against the appellants, together with Kulleem Oolah Khan, eldest son of Assim, Ally Moon Nissa Begum his widow, and Syed Ahmed, Syed Yahyah and Nagiboon Nissa Begum, other children of the said Assim, as defendants, for obtaining a partition of a certain jaghire in the province of Arcot, originally granted to Assim Khan by the Nawab Wallajah, and regranted, on certain conditions, by the appellants to the defendant Kulleem Oolah Khan; and of which, previous to such regrant, the appellants had taken possession, on their general assumption of the government of the Carnatic in 1801, followed by a treaty of cession of the territory from the Nawab of the Carnatic to the appellants.

The following is an accurate outline of the case, and the judgment.

In 1789 the jaghire in question, comprising 173 villages, was granted by Wallajah Nawab, as *altumgah enam* to Assim Khan, then his chief minister. It was resumed by the succeeding Nawab, Omdut ul Omrah, who afterwards renewed and confirmed the grant to Assim Khan, who enjoyed it till 1801, when Omdut ul Omrah died. At this period the government of the Carnatic was assumed by Lord Clive, by treaty with the Nawab, and the jaghire in question, with others, was resumed by the Governor in Council of Madras, conformably, as alleged, with the law of the country. In the arrangements between the Nawab and the Company, there was a stipulation that the maintenance of the principal officers of Wallajah Nawab, and Omdut ul Omrah Nawab, should be provided for out of the revenues of the Carnatic. In October 1801, whilst the Governor in Council was making arrangements respecting the jaghires, some of which (including that of Assim Khan) there appeared to be some intention of restoring to the grantees, Assim Khan died; immediately after which Kulleem Oolah Khan, his son and heir, applied for and obtained a regrant of the jaghire, to be held dependant on the British Government, but without the sayer, salt and saltpetre duties. Under this grant, Kulleem Oolah Khan enjoyed undisturbed

undisturbed possession of the revenues of the jaghire for nearly fourteen years. In 1813, however, the respondents commenced a suit in the Supreme Court at Madras to annul their father's will, on the ground of insanity and for other causes. They succeeded in setting aside the will. In 1817 the present suit was commenced by bill in equity in the said court, in which the East-India Company were introduced as defendants, which, after various changes, took the following form: The respondents alleged that Assim Khan died seised of the jaghire, which, as *altumgh enam*, was granted to him and his posterity for ever; that the said Assim had made no will which could affect the rights of the respondents, who had certain determinate shares in his real and personal property, which he could not change by any testamentary writing without their consent after they had attained full age; that Kulleem Oolah had fraudulently concealed the fact of there being other sons and daughters of his father entitled to share jointly with him in the property; and that the Government were consequently induced wrongfully to make the grant or purwannah of the jaghire to Kulleem Oolah Khan, to the prejudice of his co-heirs.

The Company, as defendants, alleged, amongst other grounds of defence, that the matters of the suit, so far as related to them, were of a political nature and not cognizable by any municipal court of justice.

The Court, by an order dated 22d May 1820, decreed that the original grants from Wallajah Nawab and Omdut ul Omrah Nawab to Assim Khan, were valid and subsisting grants to his posterity for ever, and that the respondents were entitled to their respective shares under the Mohammedan law. From this decree the Company appealed.

Their lordships, after hearing the Solicitor General, and Mr. Serjeant Bosanquet (with whom was Mr. Serjeant Spankie) for the appellants, and Mr. Horne and Mr. Brougham (with whom was Dr. Lushington) for the respondents, delivered their judgment by the Master of the Rolls to the following effect:—

By the judgment their lordships declared, "That the Treaty of 1801 did vest the rights of Sovereignty in the East India Company, and that the Company, in the exercise of what they considered as those rights, did resume the jaghire in question and did grant it to Kulleem Oollah Khan, not by way of confirmation of the original grant to his father, but in terms totally different, being for life only, and with a reservation to themselves of certain duties out of it, being the same thing in effect as to the act of sovereignty as if it had been granted

to a mere stranger, and being no further confirmation of the title of Assim Khan than such a grant would have been;—that the Supreme Court of Madras had no authority to question an act of sovereignty thus exercised on the part of the East India Company;—that the effect of the law, as it prevailed under the Nawab of the Carnatic, could not be examined into by the Supreme Court, nor the acts of sovereignty so exercised under the authority of the East India Company, annulled by the Supreme Court;—that the grant made by Wallajah to Assim Khan was not in force as against the Company, and that the Company were entitled to be relieved from the effect of the decree of the Supreme Court, as it regards the *sayer*, salt, and saltpetre excepted in the grant, and which grant," their lordships declared, "must be considered as limited only by the effect of the terms which the Company had used in making it to Kulleem Oollah Khan."

The Master of the Rolls, in delivering the judgment of the Lords of the Council, stated the conviction of their lordships that the motives of the Madras government in what they had so done had been strictly just; and added, that "their lordships thought it right to declare by him, that it was due to the East India Company to say, that the conduct of their officers had proceeded from a desire to do strict justice to all parties, and that if they had done injustice, it was quite unintentional on their part."

MISCELLANEOUS.

DINNER TO SIR JOHN MALCOLM.

On Wednesday the 13th June, a most splendid dinner was given at the Albion Tavern to Sir John Malcolm by the Court of Directors. Almost all the ministers, and a great number of distinguished noblemen and gentlemen, were present, among whom we noticed the Duke of Wellington, Lord Powis, Lord William Bentinck, Lord Clive, Sir James Macintosh, Sir Charles Colville, &c. &c.

The Chairman (the Hon. Hugh Lindsay), after giving the usual toasts, rose, and stated that he would not detain them by dwelling upon merits, with which they were all so well acquainted, as those of Sir John Malcolm; he would satisfy himself with proposing his health, on an occasion he deemed so fortunate for the Company and the country, as his nomination to Bombay.

Sir John Malcolm, in returning thanks for the honour done him, not only by the manner in which his health was proposed, but that in which it had been received; observed that, he ought, perhaps, to imitate the Chairman, and not detain the company—his feelings, however, were too strong, and

and his heart too full to admit of such a course. He was about to proceed to India to undertake a task, of the arduous nature of which he was fully sensible. Those by whom he was appointed had more confidence in him than he had in himself; he was too well acquainted with the character of our power in India, and with the constitution of our government, to view it without alarm. He went to India before he was fourteen, and marched to the garrison of Vellore, ninety miles, under the protection of a strong military escort, which he joined within a few miles of Madras, the country around that presidency being overrun by the enemy. Within thirty-five years of that date, he had been entrusted with the military command and civil administration of Central India, the last territory of the great continent of India which became subject to British control and authority. Sir John had, he said, given much time to the study of the early records and history of the British power in India, and he found a great number of eminent men, and many instances of individual energy of character. They were unfettered by those regulations and laws which, as our empire increased and settled, became indispensable; but this more systematic rule had with all its superiority some defects—men fell into a routine which had a tendency to deaden the energies of the mind, an effect unfavourable to so peculiar an administration as that of the British in India. It was this cause above all others which demanded extraordinary efforts in those nominated to such a charge as his was. The systems we introduced; the regulations we instituted, though framed in wisdom, and resting upon principles of justice, required a tone to be given, a soul to be breathed into them, which would enable us to attach those we ruled, and to conciliate all ranks and classes to our Government. This was particularly the task of those who filled the highest stations in India, which it rendered of a character so arduous, that ignorance alone could approach them with self-confidence. As to himself (Sir John Malcolm said), at a moment like the present, he eagerly sought for every motive which could strengthen his mind, and animate him to exertion. On looking round on those who were this day assembled to propitiate his departure, he saw many of his nearest and dearest relations, who expected that he would lose no opportunity of adding to the fair and honest fame of the family to which he belonged. He saw those (here Sir John looked to Mr. Haliburton and Mr. Cockburn, formerly of the civil service of Madras) who had received him when he went a boy to India; who had aided him with their advice, stimulated him by their example, and

who, having watched every step he took with the most flattering solicitude, now looked to him to justify their kind anticipations. He saw officers whose deeds of valour were the theme of his youth, and whose established fame first incited his mind to efforts at distinction in his profession. And here, he said, it was pleasing to refer to the date, the 13th of June, the forty-fourth anniversary of the battle of Cuddalore—an action, celebrated for the glory it gave to the British arms, and held dear by every Indian soldier, being fixed upon as that from which the Company's officers became entitled to equal rank with those of his Majesty—a privilege achieved by valour and conduct; and his eye rested upon some (Sir John turned towards Sir Thomas Dallas) who had participated in the efforts which had gained that important rank for the army to which he was proud to belong. (*Lord cheers.*) Sir John, referring to the larger scenes in which he had been employed, said he was assured, that had a great statesman (the Marquess of Wellesley) been in England, he would have been of this party, and have rejoiced in the notice bestowed upon one he had honoured with his friendship. He had, he said, never been recommended to the favour of that eminent man. He had no title to his notice but that of zeal and activity; yet he had been raised to the highest stations his rank enabled him to fill. In his intercourse with that nobleman, he had been repaid for any information he gave him by lessons of wisdom. By him his mind was first withdrawn from the limited local scenes on which it had dwelt, and taught to contemplate our Indian empire as a whole; and, above all, to study it in its various points of connexion with the Government of England. It was, said Sir John Malcolm, during the scenes in which he was engaged in the administration of Lord Wellesley, that he formed a friendship with the noble Duke (Wellington) who sat near him. It was his pride to refer to occurrences which had led to the establishment of a friendship which was unchanged and unchangable, and had associated him in public duties with one who had achieved a fame, both as a soldier and a statesman in India, which he himself could alone have eclipsed! (*Cheers.*) He dated the friendship of the noble Earl (Lord Powis), whom he rejoiced to see near him, from the same period; that nobleman had laboured most successfully, during those great events which distinguished the epoch he was in India, to promote the glory of that empire which his illustrious father had founded. Sir John said, he was also delighted to observe on this occasion another nobleman

(Lord

(Lord William Bentinck), whose friendship it was his pride to enjoy, because all who knew the character of his noble friend, must be sensible such regard could only be obtained and preserved by honest and zealous efforts in the service of his country. He had great gratification, also, he said, in seeing the prime minister of the country (Mr. Canning), who was, during the last period he served in India, President of the Board of Control. That gentleman had done him the honour to suggest his name eight years ago, as qualified for the government to which he now stood appointed. He had given him a meed of approbation which he greatly valued, in the senate of his country, and he had stated the services he had performed in so favourable a manner to his gracious Sovereign as to obtain for him the honours he wore, and which, as a soldier, he prized beyond all other reward. He stood greatly indebted, he said, to the kindness and consideration of the President of the India Board, but to none were his obligations deeper than to the Court of Directors, for the unanimous manner in which they had nominated him to the high station which he held. The feelings, Sir John Malcolm concluded, which were produced in his mind by reflexion of what he owed to those who now heard him, his earnest desire to merit such solicitude and flattering opinions, should be cherished as motives to exertion. He would bear with him to India the recollections of this day, and he trusted he should not disappoint the expectations the partiality of his friends entertained. (*Cheers.*) But the kindness shewn him on this occasion had a value independent of that of an excitement to the performance of his public duty; it came at this moment as a cordial to support him under the pain of an approaching separation from those he loved dearest, and from a country which, wherever he went, had all his attachment. (*Loud and continued applause.*)

The Chairman.—“In rising to propose ‘the health of his Majesty’s Ministers,’ I have only to express that hope which the public so generally entertain, that their eminent talents, unwearied zeal, and ability, will gain for them the high reward which their services to the country must entitle them to. With much satisfaction I propose ‘The health of the Right Hon. George Canning, and the rest of his Majesty’s Ministers.’ (Tremendous cheering for several minutes; during the continuance of which)—

Mr. Canning rose, and spoke to the following purport: Mr. Chairman, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, whom you have associated in the toast now drank, allow me to thank this company for the manner in which it has been re-

ceived. We feel that we deserve no support, and we claim none, but in so far as our exertions may contribute to the general advantage and happiness of the people. (*Cheers.*) We seek no aid but as we shall be found to deserve it. Gentlemen, there is no body of men in the country from whom such a compliment as you have now bestowed could come to us with greater welcome. I believe there is no example in the history of the world, on the one hand, of such a company as that which your Chairman represents; and on the other, of two co-equal and concurrent authorities, which for so long a series of years have conducted without shock or conflict the administration of, I had almost said, so tremendous an empire. Gentlemen, the extent of the vast empire over which the East-India Company more immediately presides, is as fearful as it is extraordinary; and it is a disproof of the common adage, that little wisdom is required for governing mankind, to consider such a machine, if I may use the expression, as 100,000,000 of souls kept together with so much comparative happiness, and so little confusion. But, gentlemen, the greatness of this empire has had its natural effect; for I will venture to say, there cannot be found in the history of Europe, the existence of any monarchy, which within a given time has produced so many men of the first talents in civil and military life as India has first trained for herself, and then given to their native country. (*Loud cheers.*) If the compliment to his Majesty’s Ministers be pleasing from the East-India Company, it is doubly so on this occasion, when that Company concurs with his Majesty’s Government in sending back to India a man whom you have brought home for a time, that he might point to the deeds he had done in your service, and that, wisely remembering them, you might restore him with power and opportunity, which will tend alike to the completion of your advantage, and his own reputation. (*Hear.*) It is perfectly true, as the gallant officer has himself stated, that eight years ago I recommended to your notice, not knowledge, for that would have been superfluous—those individuals then in your service whose respective claims, although differing and of various sorts, were yet so equally valuable, that it became a task of difficulty to select from them—I mean, Mr. Elphinstone, Sir Thomas Munro, and Sir John Malcolm. By accident rather than preference, the former gentlemen were then appointed; but if Sir John Malcolm has been behind them in opportunity and time, he will, I trust, prove ultimately equal to them in the advantages which this Company shall derive from his services. (*Loud applause.*)

The Chairman then gave the health of the President of the Board of Control, and expressed the great satisfaction he had always had in his official communications with that gentleman.

Mr. Wynn, after returning thanks, and observing, that he had always had the same satisfaction in his intercourse with the Chairman as the latter had expressed, said he could not refrain from expressing the sentiments which filled his mind upon the present occasion. It had been his duty for some time past to peruse the records of the Indian government, and he found no name higher than that of Sir John Malcolm. (*Hear!*) He had alike raised his reputation for valour and ability. Of his diligence and integrity he would not speak—these were common virtues in the service to which he belonged; but he had displayed other qualities which rendered his nomination to the government of Bombay more than a benefit to his country; it was a boon, and as such would be received by the natives of India. (*Cheers.*) The affectionate regard in which he was held by them was the happy result of his own conduct. He did not hold himself aloof or above them; he mixed in their society, associated himself with them in their hours of recreation, joined in the sports of the field with them, and by such means won their hearts. Besides, in the periods of war, he had shown towards them a rare self-denial of fame as a soldier, and of wealth to himself when these were to be purchased at any sacrifice of humanity, or to the interests and reputation of the government he served. (*Hear!*) With such an impression of the merits of the individual who was the object of this day's entertainment, he could not withhold the expression of his sentiments. (*Cheering.*)

The Chairman gave, "The health of the Duke of Wellington, and that army which he had so often led to glory."

The Duke of Wellington rose and said, he had always pleasure in attending dinners on occasions of this nature, but never had attended one with greater delight than the present. He had not merely to congratulate his friend Sir John Malcolm on his elevation to the government of Bombay: a nomination such as this operated throughout the whole Indian service. The youngest cadet saw an example he might imitate—a success he might attain. The good which the country derived from such feelings being excited was incalculable. It was now thirty years since he had formed an intimate friendship with Sir John Malcolm; during that eventful period, there was no operation of consequence, no diplomatic measure, in India, in which his friend had not borne a conspicuous part. He was alike distinguished by courage and

by talent; the history of his life during that period would, the noble duke said, be the history of the glory of his country in India. (*Hear!*) With such sentiments, it was a great gratification to him to attend on this occasion, and to congratulate his friend, the service to which he belonged, the East-India Company, and his country, on the elevation he had attained, and to wish him every success in his career of honourable ambition. (*Loud and long cheers.*)

After the Chairman had given the health of Lord Amherst,

Sir John Malcolm rose and said, he had been permitted to indulge in his feelings while he gratified the pride he had in belonging to the same service with the two distinguished individuals whose health he had to propose, Sir Thomas Munro and Mr. Elphinstone. Mr. Canning had noticed the claims of these eminent men, and he (Sir J. Malcolm) begged to assure him that no honour he had done him was valued higher than his associating his name with such individuals. And here he must express his sentiments, which he had publicly stated, that Mr. Canning, by the part he took in promoting Sir Thomas Munro and Mr. Elphinstone, had conferred the greatest benefit on India, while he elevated the service of which they were ornaments. Prompted by these feelings, and by sentiments of the warmest friendship, he begged to propose their health. (*Applause.*)

The health of the new Bishop of Calcutta, and several other toasts, were given from the chair; and about eleven o'clock the company retired.

SCOTS CHURCH IN INDIA.

On the last day of meeting (28th May) of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Dr. Meiklejohn gave in the report of the committee on the reference from the presbytery of Edinburgh regarding the junior minister of Calcutta. The committee were of opinion that the appeal should be dismissed as incompetent, on the ground that Mr. Brown, the appellant, had no status in the church of Calcutta; but recommended, as the junior minister had gone out without having complied with the regulations of the act of 1814, that upon the production of proper documents, the Presbytery of Edinburgh should be authorized to give him the necessary status.

Dr. Meiklejohn (the convener) said, Mr. Brown was not so much to blame as might be supposed—for the deliverance of the assembly of 1814 was locked up in the minutes, and unknown to the church generally. The committee would have wished that the assembly had given the status itself; but as that could not be effected

effected, it was deemed most advisable to authorize the Presbytery of Edinburgh to do so, upon the production of the necessary documents, or certified copies.

The Solicitor-General objected to the assembly giving a decision upon so important a subject, on the mere report of a committee, delivered on the last day of the session. He held, if they decided the appeal of Mr. Brown to be incompetent, that the whole case must fall to the ground; and they were not entitled to legislate upon facts disclosed in such a case. He considered the approval of the report as an extension of the act of 1814, which it would be illegal to alter, unless the whole church was consulted; and the approval of the report would be doing by a side-wind, what ought to be a deliberate act. They were not in a condition to decide, being ignorant of the facts; he therefore wished the matter to lie over till next assembly.

This objection led to a desultory discussion, in which the members expressed the deepest interest in the matter—all seeming to concur in thinking that the whole misunderstanding had originated in the manner in which the East-India Company had made the appointments, particularly in that Hon. Court not corresponding and acknowledging the assembly on the subject. A motion to nearly the following effect was ultimately unanimously adopted:

"The General Assembly, feeling the deepest interest in the condition of their Presbyterian brethren in India maintaining the principles of the Church of Scotland, appoint a Committee to inquire into the present state of the ministers in India, to take into consideration the wants and exigencies of the same, and to inquire on what footing the India Company are willing to receive Presbyterian ministers," &c.—*Caled. Mercury*.

NEW JUDGE OF BOMBAY.

Mr. J. P. Grant, formerly of the Northern circuit, and late member for Tavistock, has been appointed one of the Judges of the Supreme Court at Bombay.

PROFESSOR HAUGHTON.

In the review of Mr. Haughton's edition of the Institutes of Menu (in our last volume), the state of that gentleman's health was adverted to. We now lament to hear, that complete tranquillity and change of climate being thought indispensable for its re-establishment, he has been obliged to resign the professorship of Hindu literature at the East-India college, where his loss will be severely felt. To his friends and to himself, the high approbation with which the Court of Directors have acknowledged his past services, joined to the public expression of their regret at the cause of his resignation, must prove equally satisfactory. As Mr. Haughton is still in the prime of life, we hope, ere

long, to see him restored to health, and resuming his station among the distinguished upholders of Eastern literature in this country.

BHURTPORE GUN.

The brass gun captured at Bhurtpore has arrived in England, on the *Rose*, as a present to his Majesty. Its dimensions are as follow: length, 17 feet; external diameter of the breech, 37 inches; diameter of the muzzle, 24 inches; diameter of calibre, 9 inches; thickness of metal at the breech, 14 inches; at the muzzle, 7½; its gross weight is estimated at seventeen tons. It is not a little curious, that from the centre reinforce to the cascabel, the metal is essentially different from that which composes the first part of the gun, as if it had been cast at different times. The same principle seems to have been observed in casting, which obtains with the natives of India generally, that of forming the bore by a tube of iron, over which the brass is cast. The piece is surmounted, at the trunnions, by two dolphins, and ornamented, on different parts, by raised work, and Persian inscriptions. It will receive an iron ball of 100lbs. weight.

CAPTAIN GRINDLAY'S VIEWS IN INDIA.

The third part of this gentleman's splendid work, on the scenery, costumes, and architecture of India, to which we referred in our April number, has now appeared; and it is gratifying to us to find how well it fulfils the promises we held out when noticing the first part, that the succeeding portions would rather exceed than fall short of its merits. The contents are: 1. Preparations for a Sutee; 2. Tombs of the Kings of Golconda; 3. Hermitage at Kurrungalle, in Ceylon; 4. Fortress of Bowrie, in Rajpootana; 5. The Fort of Bombay; 6. Morning View from Calliann, near Bombay. We would particularly notice the third, the fourth (both of which are from drawings by the late Capt. Auber, and display to great advantage the powers of that lamented officer's pencil); and the last, which is from a painting by Daniell, after a drawing by Capt Grindlay; they are exquisitely beautiful. When complete, this magnificent work will be almost invaluable.

TESTIMONIAL TO EAST-INDIA COMMANDERS.

Copy of a letter addressed to Capt. J. Short, commanding East-India ship *Fairlie*; dated on board the *Fairlie*, 22d May 1827.

Dear Sir: Now that our voyage is completed, and we are about to separate, we feel it only in justice to your merit, and a duty imposed on ourselves, to convey to you our best thanks for your liberal and kind treatment, your indulgent and considerate conduct, during our being on board your ship, and which conspired so much to lessen the tedium of a sea voyage.

Whilst we beg your assurance of our being sensibly

s'ble of such kindness, and without venturing to speak fully of your professional knowledge, permit us to affirm, that the skill and intelligence elicited during the voyage was of a character to impart a feeling of confidence and security such as we could ever wish to possess when on the treacherous ocean.

With most cordial wishes for health, happiness, and prosperity to be your constant attendants, we remain, dear sir, faithfully yours,
(Signed) Isabella Mengay Garnham.

Mary Agnes Silk,

Emily Short,

John Rodder, major, Bengal Horse Artill.

N. S. Webb, major, Bengal Artillery.

George Playfair, surgeon, H.C.'s service.

Edward Goate, capt., 37th regt.

P. Schallch, lieutenant, Bengal 2d cavalry.

Capt. Short's reply to the above letter.

Ship *Fairlie*, May 23d, 1827.

Ladies and Gentlemen: The letter you have done me the honour to address to me at the moment of your leaving the ship *Fairlie*, stating the satisfaction with which my feeble efforts to render a long voyage comfortable have been crowned, is most gratifying to my feelings, and the kind wishes you have expressed for my future welfare, at the time of our separation, will ever remain engraven on my memory.

I attribute the happiness of the voyage, not to my own efforts, but to the general kind conduct, affability, and condescension of my passengers, from whom I have always received the most polite attention, and for whose individual happiness and prosperity I shall ever retain the greatest solicitude.

I have the honour to be, ladies and gentlemen, very respectfully and faithfully yours,

(Signed) JOSEPH SHORT.

To Mrs. Colonel Garnham, &c.

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST.)

11th L. Dr. W. Phibbs to be corn. by purch., v. Bolton prom. in 13th L. Dr. (26 June 27).

13th L. Dr. Capt. J. Crossley, from h.p., to be capt., v. H. Heyman, who exch., rec. dif. (12 July 26); Lieut. P. P. Neville, from 30th F., to be lieut., v. Evered, who exch. (9 Nov. 26); Capt. Sir A. T. C. Campbell, from Cape Corps of Cav., to be capt., v. J. Thornton, who rets. on h.p. of Cape Corps of Cav., rec. dif. (14 June 27); Corn. A. Bolton, from 11th L. Dr., to be lieut. by purch., v. Dalzell prom. (26 June).

2d Foot. Lieut. W. Jesse, from 50th F., to be lieut., v. Smith prom. (10 May); Lieut. T. Dowglass, from h.p., to be lieut., v. W. Belford, who exch. (14 June).

3d Foot. Lieut. W. Douglas, from h.p., to be lieut., v. Ridd prom. (10 May); Ens. J. C. Rouse, from 20th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Grant prom. (17 May); A. Kennedy to be ens. by purch., v. Darling app. to 57th F. (24 May); Ens. G. A. Malcolm, from 6th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Morshhead prom. (7 June).

13th Foot. Lieut. W. H. Barker, from h.p., to be lieut., v. R. Stapleton, who exch., rec. dif. (24 May).

14th Foot. Ens. J. Watson to be lieut. by purch., v. Mackenzie prom. (17 May); J. Lloyd to be ens. by purch., v. Chambers prom. in 44th F. (23 May); M. C. Wilder to be ens. by purch., v. Watson prom. (24 May); W. S. Rose to be ens. by purch., v. Lord Elphinstone app. to Royal Horse Guards (14 June).

20th Foot. J. Rogers to be ens. by purch., v. Rouse prom. in 3d F. (17 May).

30th Foot. Lieut. Col. H. Stacpoole, from 45th F., to be lieut. col., v. Vigoureaux, who exch. (20 Dec. 26); Lieut. R. A. Andrews, from 48th F., to be lieut., v. Blackall who exch. (8 Nov. 26); Lieut. J. G. Evered, from 13th L. Dr., to be lieut., v. Neville who exch. (9 Nov. 26); Lieut. C. Tobin, from 54th F., to be lieut., v. Schoof, who exch. (11 Nov. 26); Ens. C. W. Barrow to be lieut., v. Lewis dec. (15 Dec. 26); H. W. Magee to be ens., v. Barrow (15 do).

31st Foot. J. Whittam to be ens. by purch., v. Pearson prom. in 47th F. (14 June 27).

30th Foot. Ens. C. Irvine, from 96th F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Bernard who rets. (17 May); Lieut. R. Matthew to be capt., v. Scymnor dec.; Ens. E. Evans to be lieut., v. Matthew; and R. Hayes to be ens., v. Evans (all 5 Jan.); Lieut. R. Dudley, from 87th F., to be lieut., v. Stewart prom. (14 June).

40th Foot. Lieut. Col. T. Valiant, from 92d F., to be lieut. col., v. Thornton, who exch. (7 June).

44th Foot. Lieut. F. Crowther, from h.p. 1st F., to be lieut., v. Dunn app. to 12th F. (10 May); Ens. J. D. Young to be lieut. by purch., v. Evans who rets. (7 Jan.); Ens. G. G. B. Lowther to be lieut. by purch., v. O'Halloran prom. in 99th F. (31 May); E. Stuart to be ens. by purch., v. Young (7 Jan.); R. A. Daniell to be ens. by purch., v. Lowther (31 May).

45th Foot. Lieut. Col. C. A. Vigoureaux, from 30th F., to be lieut. col., v. Stacpoole, who exch. (20 Dec. 26); Lieut. D. A. Courtenay, from 87th F., to be lieut., v. Elliott, who exch. (12 Nov. 26); Ens. G. H. Clarke to be lieut. by purch., v. Dear prom. (7 June 27); Ens. H. B. Bennett, from 89th F., to be ens., v. Clarke (14 June).

46th Foot. Ens. W. J. Yonge to be lieut. by purch., v. W. Campbell prom. (17 May); N. Goselin to be ens. by purch., v. Yonge prom. (14 June).

47th Foot. Ens. T. Pearson, from 31st F., to be lieut. by purch., v. Stuart prom. (7 June).

48th Foot. Lieut. J. Blackall, from 20th F., to be lieut., v. Andrews, who exch. (8 Nov. 26).

54th Foot. Lieut. M. Schoof, from 30th F., to be lieut., v. Tobin, who exch. (11 Nov. 26).

59th Foot. J. Farmer to be ens. by purch., v. Jesse prom. (10 May); Lieut. L. Carmichael to be capt., v. Stevenson dec.; and Serj. Maj. D. Calder to be adj., with rank of ens., v. Carmichael, prom. (both 5 Dec. 26).

77th Foot. Lieut. H. G. Baylee to be capt., v. Bell prom. in 41st F. (10 May 27); Ens. R. Dudley to be lieut., v. Baylee (10 do.); Ens. T. B. Sheen, from 70th F., to be lieut., v. Kennelly prom. (11 May); F. Dunbar to be ens., v. Dudley (10 May); Lieut. R. C. Elliott, from 45th F., to be lieut., v. Courtenay, who exch. (12 Nov. 26).

97th Foot. Capt. J. E. Muttelbury, from h.p., to be capt., v. Logie prom. (17 May 27).

Ceylon Regt. Lieut. T. W. Rogers to be capt. by purch., v. Faree, who rets. (7 June).

Brevet. Capt. T. Hall, 14th F., aide-de-camp to late Brig. Gen. Edwards, to be maj. in army (19 Jan. 26).

Staff:—Maj. J. Fraser, Ceylon Regt., to be dep. qtr. mast. gen. to troops serving in island of Ceylon (with rank of lieut. col. in army), v. Hardy, who resigns (24 May).

The undermentioned cadets of the Hon. E. I. Company's service to have temporary rank as ensigns during period of their being placed at Chatham for field instructions in art of sapping and mining:—

Cadets F. Dittus, H. Fraser, W. Garrard, H. A. Lake, and R. Napier (all 7 June).

Honorary Distinctions.

The 6th Foot to bear on its colours and appointments the words "Rojica," "Vimeira," "Corunna," "Vittoria," and "Nivelle."

The 83d Foot to bear on its colours and appointments the word "Busaco."

The 44th Foot to bear on its colours and appointments the word "Bladensburg."

His Majesty has been pleased to approve of the Ceylon Regiment bearing the name of the "Ceylon Rifle Regiment."

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

May 20. *Lady Ragles*, Coxwell, and *Morley*, Holiday, both from Bengal and Madras; at Deal. —30. *Abarton*, Percival, from Bengal and Madras; at Gravesend,—also *Asia*, Adamson, from China

China 1st Feb.; at Deal.—31. *Mermaid*, Yates, from Bengal, Madras, and Cape; at Deal.—June 3. *Lalla Rookh*, Stewart, from Singapore 15th Jan., and Penang 15th Feb.; at Gravesend,—also *Winchelsea*, Everest, and *Marquis Huntley*, Fraser, both from China; at Deal.—4. *Sir David Scott*, M^r Taggart, from China 14th Feb.; at Gravesend.—5. *Isabella*, Wiseman, from China, 12th Feb.; at Gravesend.—6. *Regalia*, Burt, from N.S. Wales 20th Dec.; at Deal.—7. *Lady Flora*, Fayer, from Bengal 11th Feb.; at Deal.—19. *Gipsy*, Quirk, from Bombay; at Liverpool.—20. *Lord Lyndoch*, Headle, from Bengal; at Deal,—also *Perseverance*, Brown, from Bengal, at Liverpool.—21. *Rose*, Marquis, from Bengal 24th Feb.; at Gravesend,—also *Portland*, Mead, and *Marquis Huntly*, Ascoug, both from N.S. Wales; off Portsmouth.—24. *Kenner*, Broad, from Bengal 8th Feb.; and *England*, Reay, from China 11th Feb.; at Deal,—also *Hedley*, Cockley from Manila 31st Dec.; off Portsmouth.

Departures.

May 29. *Princess Charlotte of Wales*, Biden, for Madras and Bengal; *Henry Porcher*, Jeffrey, for ditto; and *Ordia*, Hudson, for V. D. Land and N.S. Wales, all from Deal.—30. *Duke of Lancaster*, Hanney, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—31. *Joseph*, Christopherson, for Bengal; *Vesulia*, Walmley, for Madras; and *Egyptian*, Remnoldson, for Gibraltar and Mauritius; all from Deal,—also *Archibald*, Martin, for Bordeaux and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—3. *Diadem*, Wilson, for Bengal; *Vittoria*, Southam, for Batavia, Penang, and Singapore; and *Clyde*, Monro, for Madras and Bengal; all from Deal.—6. *Lady Nugent*, Cotgrave, for Bombay; from Deal.—11. *Woodrop Sims*, West, for Java, and *Brazilian*, Cotesworth, for the Mauritius; both from Liverpool.—9. *Dorothy*, Gamcock, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—10. *Pomona*, Hughes, for Bombay; and *Matilda*, Bulley, for Singapore and Batavia; both from Liverpool,—also *Prince Regent*, Lamb, for Madras and Bengal; from Deal.—11. *Maria*, Ruards, for Batavia, and *Prince Regent*, Richards, for N.S. Wales; both from Deal.—12. *Asell*, Levy, for China and Quebec, and *Mary*, McBeath, for V. D. Land and N.S. Wales; both from Deal.—13. *John Taylor*, Atkinson, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—14. *Noornahull*, Hopkirk, for Batavia; from Deal.—16. *Larkins*, Campbell, for China and Halifax; *Circassian*, Douthwaite, for Bengal; and *Scotland*, Lamb, for Valparaiso, Cape Horn, and Batavia; all from Deal,—also *Parket*, McArthur, for Bengal; from Greenock.—17. *George Cumming*, Kent, for Bengal; *Childre Harold*, West, for Madras and Bengal; and *Parmelia*, Wimbie, for Bengal; all from Deal.—19. *Sir William Wallace*, Brown, for Bombay; *Marquis Wellington*, Chapman, for Bengal; *Topaz*, Stroyan, for the Mauritius; *Agurgus*, Crawshaw, for ditto; and *Eliza*, Leary, for Cork and N.S. Wales; all from Deal.—20. *Padang*, Rogers, for Padang; from Deal.—21. *Maleina*, Murray, for Bombay, and *Nimrod*, Harvie, for N.S. Wales; both from Deal.—23. *Thomas Greenville*, Manning, for Bengal; *Recovery*, Chapman, for Bombay; *Strenshall*, Dunning, for the Mauritius; and *Lord Strangford*, Gray, for ditto; all from Deal.—25. *Eliza Jane*, Liddell, for the Mauritius, and *Jane*, Jamieson, for Madras and Bengal; both from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Lady Raffles, from Bengal: Mrs. Hopkins; Mrs. Mathew; Miss Wahab; P. R. Cazalet, Esq.; W. G. Monk, Esq.; H. Mathew, Esq.; Capt. Thorp, H.M.'s 80th regt.; Lieut. J. Davidson, Madras N.I.; W. Cazalet, Esq.; Misses Hopkins, 2 Reynolds, Thacker, and Thompson; Masters Reynolds, 2 Wyse, and 2 Thompson; 5 servants; 30 Invalids H.M.'s 30th regt.

Per Aberton, from Bengal: Capt. and Mrs. Bell; Capt. G. H. Bell; Lieut. Ramsay; Ens. Creigh; Capt. P. Young; Capt. G. Fryer; Lieut. C. Bolero; D. Leighton, Esq., merchant; 35 Invalids.

Per Mermaid, from Bengal: Colonel Limond, Major Youngson, and Capt. Harvey, Madras army; Lieut. Crisp, H.M.'s 1st Foot; Capt. Vaughan, 47th Foot; Lieut. Brachen, Lieut. Wilson, and Lieut. Graham, Bengal N.I.; Mr. Fairburn; Capt. Young; Mrs. Limond and two children; Mrs. Graham and ditto; two Masters Tyler; 3 native servants.

Per Morley, from Bengal and Ceylon: Sir John Stoneham, Bart., civil service; Mrs. Col. Baker; W. W. Baker, Esq.; Mr. J. Bell and Mr. S. Hicks, Indigo planters; Capt. J. H. Grant, Master Attendant's Department, Calcutta.

Per Lalla Rookh, from Penang: Mr. W. Hall; Mr. and Mrs. Snaddon and eight children; Mr. R. Burnos.

Per Sir David Scott, from China: J. B. Thornhill, Esq., supracargo; Capt. Thos. Shepherd, country service.

Per Marquis of Huntley, from China: H. Magniac, Esq.; Mrs. Magniac and two children; Mr. Douglas, Madras C.S.—From the Cape: Mrs. and Miss Hawkins; Mr. Macdonal; Mr. Simpson; and Mr. Campbell.

Per Lady Flora, from Bengal: Mrs. Col. Campbell; Mrs. A. Colvin; Mrs. J. Hickey; Lieut. Col. Campbell; Maj. E. R. Broughton, Bengal N.I.; Capt. W. Harris, H.M.'s 16th Lancers; Dr. O. Wray, med. estab.; Capt. C. Tarbutt; Lieuts. Balders, Tytler, and Grant; Misses Halford, S. Haydon, Marcus, and two Hickey; Masters Fraser, Ainslie, and three Hickey; seven servants.

Per Regalia, from N. S. Wales: Mr. Hughes, surg. R.N.; Mr. G. Weller; Mr. R. Thompson; Miss Barnett; Mr. Clayton; and Mr. H. Slade.

Per Rose, from Bengal: Mrs. Browne; Mrs. Matthews; Miss Browne; Thos. Lewin, Esq., barrister; Lieut. Col. Bishop, and Capt. Haslewood, H.M.'s 14th Foot; Capt. Irvine, engineers; Lieut. Iveson, 7th Bengal N.I.; Lieut. W. Crawford, Bombay Cav.; Cornet J. Farmer, 9th Bengal N.I.; S. Taddy, Esq., indigo planter; R. Matthews, Esq., ditto; Misses M. A. Swinhoe and E. Hodgson; Masters H. Kinsey, E. Browne, and T. Baker; three servants.

Per Lord Lyndoch, from Bengal: Lieut. Col. H. Blair, H.M.'s 87th Foot; Major and Mrs. Streathfield, ditto; Captains Hutchinson, Moore, and Kennedy, ditto; Lieuts. Baylie, Irvine, and Halstead, ditto; Adj. Hassard; Mrs. Carr; Surg. Brown, H.M.'s 87th Regt.; Miss E. Streathfield; Mr. W. Jackson, surg. Bengal estab.; 169 privates H.M.'s 87th Regt.; 14 soldiers' wives; 34 children.

Per Perseverance, from Bengal: S. Williams, Esq., indigo planter.

Per Portland, from N. S. Wales: Lieut. Col. Balfour (40th Regt.) and family; Capt. Lockyer (3d Regt.) and family; Lieut. Stoddart, Royal Staff Corps; Mast. M. Cooper; Mr. G. Hooper.

Per Marquis Huntley, from N.S. Wales: Mr. G. Blaxland; Mr. Cook; Mr. Nesbitt; Mr. Dixon, surg. R.N.; Lieut. King, 48th Regt.; Mrs. King and child; Assist. surg. Turner, of the artillery; Mr. Henderson.

Per Reaper, from Bengal: T. F. Waghorn, Esq., Company's Marine.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per Katherine Stewart Forbes, for Bombay: Mr. R. A. Meade and Mr. Hutchinson, cadets; Mr. Sympson; Mrs. Willis and daughters; Mrs. Clow; Miss Roome; Rev. Mr. Webber and lady; Mr. Forbes; Mr. Campbell; Mr. Cotgrave; Miss De Bercken; Mr. Nisbet.

Per Princess Charlotte of Wales, for Madras and Bengal: Lieut. Col. Sir James Mount, H.C.'s service; Lieut. H. Fowle; Lieut. A. Fenton; Lieut. C. A. Kerr; Capt. and Mrs. Babington, and two children; Mr. C. H. Beaton; Mr. W. March; Miss Andree; Misses F. S. Hamilton and E. A. Hamilton; Mrs. M. Vincent; Misses A. S. Faithfull; L. Compton, and M. Marshall; Messrs. John Paterson and A. L. Paterson; Mrs. S. Harris; Miss S. E. Longbottom; Misses Eliza Brodie and Ann Brodie; Mr. E. Lovel; Messrs. M. Lovell, J. B. Preston, and E. J. Agnew, assist. surgeons; Messrs. F. H. Pemberton, H. Thatcher, Jas. Coxwell, G. Rankin, E. Goodenough, D. Gansson, T. Brodie, J. Leager, H. F. Hillard, C. J. Compton, J. C. Whitley, C. Sherrard, B. Jenner, J. J. Redmond, and J. N. Marshall, cadets; 150 soldiers H.C.'s service; 15 soldiers' wives; 7 children.

Per Marquis Wellington, for Bengal: Lady Gray; Misses M. P. Money and L. Money; Mrs. L. Latham; Misses C. Wenys, P. Swinton, A. Trower, E. Cowell, H. Cowell, L. McKenney, and G. Fisher;

G. Fisher; Messrs. W. J. Money, J. Sandys, J. Battye, and H. Elliott, writers; Mr. C. Swinton; Lieut. W. Elliott; Rev. J. Latham, missionary; Mr. R. MacCann; Lieut. J. Lang; Messrs. E. Taylor, H. Fenrose, J. Curtis, and W. Baker, cadets; Capt. Johnson, H.M.'s 13th Foot; Lieut. Boyce, Lieut. Burslen, and Assist. surg. Slark, H.M.'s 44th Foot; Lieut. Fraser, Ens. Wise, Ens. Hutchinson, Ens. White, and Ens. Bristow, H.M.'s 47th Foot; Ens. McGregor and Assist. surg. Strath, H.M.'s 50th Foot; 230 soldiers H.M.'s service; 29 soldiers' wives; 29 children.

Per Thomas Grenville, for Bengal: Major Baldock; Lieut. A. Fraser; Capt. Rees; Lieut. J. R. Burrell; Mr. Mainwaring; Misses Colles, H. E. Siddons, S. Siddons, A. Wilson, and E. Hoppen; Messrs. C. R. Browne, C. Clarke, L. Ross, R. Dick, D. H. Brodie, and H. Lemercier, cadets; Mr. T. Inglis, assist. surg.; 200 recruits H.C.'s service; 10 women; 6 children.

Per Neptune, for Bombay; Maj. Gen. Sir John Malcolm and suite; Sir Alex. Campbell, Bart.; Lady Campbell; Messrs. Escombe, C. A. Tracey, R. S. Frampton, and E. Chamier, writers; Messrs. J. Wye, J. Murray, and J. Williamson, assist. surgs.; Lieut. Newton, Cornet Scott, and Cornet Gordon, H.M.'s 4th L. Drags.

Per Parmelia, for Bengal: Col. Dickson, H.C.'s service; Miss A. Stone; Lieut. F. B. Stocke.

Per Recovery, for Bombay: Lieut. Col. and Mrs. Sullivan and family; Capt. Fyans; Lieut. and Mrs. Wells; Mr. and Mrs. Clendon; Miss Watson; Messrs. Wyatt, Watson, and McGregor.

Per Childe Harold, for Madras and Calcutta: Mr. Birkenyoung and family; Mr. Ralston; Mr. O'Neill; Mrs. Mather; Col. Carter; Mr. Shillingford; Misses Wells and Henderson; Mr. Christie; Mr. Mackenzie, merchant; Mr. Bell; Mr. Richmond; 3 servants.

Per Jane, for Madras: Messrs. Paterson, Dobbs, and Mackenzie, cadets; two native servants.

Per Carnbrea Castle, for Calcutta: Mr. Petrie; Messrs. Luke and Harper, writers; Messrs. Scammore and Murrell, cadets; Miss Martin; Major and Mrs. Turner; Mr. Graves, merchant.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

May. 20. At Edinburgh, the lady of Colonel Foulis, Madras Cavalry, and of Cairney Lodge, Fifeshire, of a son.

29. In Upper Portland Place, the lady of Henry St. G. Tucker, of a son.

June 7. Mrs. Thornton, of Bennet Street, Great Surrey Street, of a daughter.

8. In Union Place, Lambeth, the lady of Mr. E. Hacon, East-India service, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

May 18. At Edinburgh, J. C. Ralston, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Catherine, eldest daughter of the late J. Home, of Linhouse, Esq., clerk to the signet.

June 11. At Oxted, near Godstone, Surrey, Stephen, third son of T. Duke, Esq., of Blakehurst, near Arundel, to Frances, second daughter of the late Lieut. Col. F. W. Bellis, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

12. At Dunse, Mr. F. Howden, to Sophia, eldest daughter of the late D. Brown, Esq., Penang.

20. At St. George's Church, Hanover Square, Sir Alex. Campbell, Bart., to Miss Malcolm, eldest daughter of Maj. Gen. Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B.

DEATHS.

Feb. 21. On board the *Ermouth* transport, in Table Bay, Cape of Good Hope, Wm. Campbell, Esq., editor and proprietor of the *Singapore Chronicle*, aged 23.

March 26. On board the *Morley*, on the passage from Bengal, Capt. M'Leod, H.M.'s 70th Foot.

May 19. At Harwich, the Rev. Wm. Whinfield, B.D., Vicar of Romsey and Dovercourt-cum-Harwich, formerly chaplain to the East-India Company at Benccoolen, aged 64.

21. At Cheltenham, Charlotte, youngest daughter of the late Lieut. Gen. George Conyngham, of the Madras establishment, aged 28.

27. On Horne-hill, Dulwich, Wm. Prior, Esq., late of Smyrna, in his 52d year.

29. Mr. James, author of the *Naval History*.

June 5. At North End, Hampstead, Capt. P. Earl, of the East-India ship *Aurora*.

14. At the East-India Military College, Addiscombe, in her 19th year, Frances Elizabeth, second daughter of Colonel Houston.

Laterly. At Northam, Sussex, Charlotte D. Deane, daughter of the late John Deane, Esq., of the Bengal Civil Service, aged 19.

— At Aleppo, of the plague, the Hon. H. Anson, brother of Lord Anson.

— Henry, eldest son of Sir Robert Wilson, M.P., after a long illness contracted on service in the East-Indies.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

ADVICE have been received at Calcutta from the mission to Ava, dated Senebawgeon, the 25th of December. The mission arrived at Ava on the 20th of September, and left it on the 12th of December. They had all experienced much civility from the court. Mr. Crawford, after repeated conferences with the Burman ministers, had concluded a commercial treaty, of which the following is the purport:—Merchants and vessels are to pass and repass between the respective countries without hindrance or charge on vessels except the customary dues. All vessels under a certain size are to be subject to duties only, and a small charge for a chokey pass on departure; large vessels are not to be obliged to land their guns, nor unship their rudders. Merchants are to come and go, and dispose of or take

away their property without hindrance or charge. In cases of wreck, or injury by stress of weather, the crews of the vessels of either state are to receive all assistance.

At the time the mission left Ava, a deputation was preparing on the part of the court for Bengal.

The opportunity of adding to our knowledge of the people and the country had been found fully available, and much valuable information may thence be expected. Dr. Wallich has collected about 13,000 plants, of which he considers at least one-third new. Several new genera are amongst the number. The mineral collections are equally extensive, especially in ores, marbles, petrifications, and fossil remains.

**GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE
AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.**

For Sale 4 July—Prompt 12 October.
Company's.—Mocha Coffee—Sugar.
Licensed.—Coffee—Rice.

For Sale 6 July—Prompt 12 October.
Company's.—Cotton Wool.
Licensed.—Cotton Wool—Shawl Wool.

For Sale 19 July—Prompt 28 September.
Company's and Licensed.—Indigo.

**CARGOES of EAST-INDIA COM-
PANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.**

CARGOES of the *Asia*, Sir David Scott; *Winchelsea*, Marquis of Huntly; *Isabella*, and *England*, from China; the *Mermaid*, and *Rose*, from Bengal; and the *Lady Ruffles* and *Abberton*, from Bengal and Madras.

Company's.—Tea—Sugar—Cotton—Piece Goods
—Raw Silk—Indigo—Refined Saltpetre.
Private-Trade and Privilege.—Tea—Raw Silk
—Silks—Nankeens—China Root—Tortoiseshell—
Bamboo Canes—Black Canes—Mats—Wine—Ma-
deira—Malinsey.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ship's Name.	Tonnage.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras and Penang Madras Madras and Bengal.	1827 July 15	Royal Charlotte	261	Robert Dudman.	Robert Dudman.	W. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co., Clement's-lane.
	25	Hope	465	John T. E. Flint.	Thomas Hill	E. I. Docks	Charles Moss, Mark-lane.
	28	Copernicus	323	William Tindell	James Bolland	W. I. Docks	John Lynsey, jun. Birch-lane.
	June 30	Elphinstone	425	George Joad	J. A. Atkinson	City Canal	John Lynsey, jun.
	July 5	Elphinstone	425	George Joad	J. A. Atkinson	City Canal	John Lynsey, jun.
Bengal	3	Mary Ann	597	Fraser, Living, and Co.	James Boucatt	E. I. Docks	John S. Brinley, Birch-lane.
	3	Corn Brea Castle	580	Huddart and Co.	Thomas Davey	E. I. Docks	J. Pirie & Co., Freeman's-ct., Cornhill.
	7	York	478	Samuel Moates	H. R. Wilkinson	City Canal	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
	8	Catherine	522	Joseph Hare	John Macintosh	E. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co. Billiter-sq.
	10	Barrington, jun.	522	David Clark	Archibald Shannon	W. I. Docks	Henderson and Graham, Mark-lane.
Bengal	10	Ganges	627	Edward M. Boulbee	Edw. M. Boulbee	E. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, and Co.
	15	Anna Robertson	550	James Irvine	James Irvine	City Canal	Edm. Read, Riche's-court, Lime-st.
	15	Lady Flora	755	Robert John Fayer	Robert J. Fayer	E. I. Docks	Richards, & Co., Bishopsgate-st. within
	—	Belle Alliance	676	Hugh Hunter	Hugh Hunter	W. I. Docks	Chalmers & Guthrie, & J. Horsley & Co.
	—	Robarts	723	Cockrell and Co.	Joseph Corbyn	E. I. Docks	W. Abercrombie, Birch-lane.
Gravesend.	25	Palmyra	602	Buckles and Co.	John Lamb	City Canal	Buckles and Co.
	Aug. 1	Orion	596	Thomas White	Thomas White	E. I. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
	10	Zenobia	602	Richards and Co.	Joseph Douglas	City Canal	Tomlin and Man, Threadneedle-st.
	15	Georgiana	496	Joseph Horsley and Co.	William Haylett	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
	15	Severina	498	George Watson	William Bouchier	W. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co.
Bombay	July 20	Union Castle	698	John Thacker	Peter Widridge	E. I. Docks	William Abercrombie.
	20	Lady Feversham	550	John Barry	Stephen, Ellerbe	W. I. Docks	John Lynsey, jun.
	28	Hopalong	445	Buckles and Co.	Peter J. Reeves	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	30	Alexander	447	George Joad	Wm. Richardson	W. I. Docks	John Lynsey, jun.
	30	Samuel Brown	394	E. and A. Rule	John Hugal Reid	W. I. Docks	E. and A. Rule, Lime-street.
Ceylon Madras & Ceylon	30	Norral	204	William Conbro	William Conbro	W. I. Docks	W. Redhead, jun.
	30	Ellen	226	Ralph Fenwick	Charles Camper	Lon. Docks	Cookes and Long, Mark-lane.
	30	Hussien	293	John Long	George Gibson	Lon. Docks	Pirie and Co.
	4	Kerswell	294	Capt. and Co.	Edw. S. Armstrong	Lon. Docks	Charles Home, Rood-lane.
	10	Heros	320	Thorntons and West	James Sweet	W. I. Docks	Edmund Read.
Sardinia	25	Batavia	326	Thorntons and West	Philip Blair	W. I. Docks	Edmund Read.
	Aug. 5	Wilhelmina	300	Thorntons and West	John Jorgenson	W. I. Docks	Edmund Read.
	30	Sovereign	389	Thomas Hall and Co.	John Mac Kellar	Woolwich	Thos. Hall & Co., Howford-buildings.
	July 3	John	444	Samuel Moates	John Moncrieff	Sheerness	Joseph Lachlan, Allie-street.
	7	Asia	457	Aaron Chapman	John Edman	Deptford	Joseph Lachlan.
New South Wales	20	Kilcath	527	Saunders, Brothers, & Co.	William Cock	Cork	R. T. Wade, London-street.
	25	Woodbridge	490	Charles Barond Thery	Robert Brash	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	5	Woodlark	300	Buckles and Co.	Arthur Crummond	Lon. Docks	John Crummond.
	10	Courier	250	John Hooke	John F. Steele	Lon. Docks	Robt. Thornhill, Nicholas-lane.
	3	George Home	447	B. Powis	Matthew Procter	Lon. Docks	J. Pirie and Co.
V. D. Land & N. S. Wales	5	Abdon	350	John Pirie and Co.	Matthew Procter	Lon. Docks	J. Pirie and Co.

3WA June 1827.

PRICE CURRENT, June 26.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.

	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Coffee, Java .....cwt		
— Cheribon	2 2 0	— 2 12 0
— Sumatra	1 18 0	— 2 3 0
— Bourbon		
— Mocha	3 0 0	— 6 0 0
Cotton, Surat.....lb	0 0 5	— 0 0 6
— Madras	0 0 5	— 0 0 6
— Bengal	0 0 4	— 0 0 5
— Bourbon	0 0 7	— 0 0 10
Drugs & for Dyeing.....		
— Aloes, Epatica.....cwt	16 0 0	— 21 0 0
— Anniseeds, Star.....		
— Borax, Refined.....	2 4 0	— 2 6 0
— Unrefined, or Tincal	2 2 0	
— Camphire	8 10 0	— 8 15 0
— Cardamoms, Malabar..lb	0 10 6	
— Ceylon	0 1 0	— 0 1 4
— Cassia Buds	6 10 0	— 7 0 0
— Lignea	5 0 0	— 5 10 0
— Castor Oil	0 0 6	— 0 1 6
— Dragon's Blood.....	5 0 0	— 21 0 0
— Gum Ammoniac, lump..	3 0 0	— 5 0 0
— Arabic	1 5 0	— 3 10 0
— Assafetida		
— Benjamin	2 0 0	— 50 0 0
— Animi	3 0 0	— 8 0 0
— Gambogium	26 0 0	— 30 0 0
— Myrrh	3 0 0	— 6 0 0
— Olibanum	3 10 0	— 5 0 0
— Kino	11 0 0	— 16 0 0
— Lac Lake	0 1 0	— 0 1 6
— Dye	0 4 0	
— Shell	2 10 0	— 5 0 0
— Stick	2 0 0	— 3 0 0
— Musk, China	0 10 0	— 0 15 0
— Oil, Cassia	0 0 4	— 0 0 5
— Cinnamon	0 9 0	— 0 10 0
— Cloves	0 1 3	— 0 1 6
— Mace	0 0 2	— 0 0 3
— Nutmegs	0 2 9	— 0 3 0
— Opium		
— Rhubarb	0 1 6	— 0 5 6
— Sal Ammoniac	3 5 0	
— Senna	0 0 9	— 0 2 0
— Turmeric, Java	1 10 0	— 1 16 0
— Bengal	1 5 0	— 1 10 0
— China	1 16 0	— 2 2 0
Galls, in Sorts	4 0 0	
— Blue	4 0 0	— 4 10 0

	£. s. d.	£. s. d.
Indigo, Blue and Violet..lb	0 13 3	— 0 13 0
— Extra fine Violet ..	0 12 9	— 0 12 6
— Violet	0 9 9	— 0 11 9
— Violet and Copper ..	0 9 0	— 0 11 3
— Fine Copper	0 10 0	— 0 10 9
— Copper	0 8 9	— 0 9 9
— Consuming sorts	0 7 0	— 0 11 0
— Good Oude	0 5 6	— 0 8 0
— Low and bad Oude ..	0 3 0	— 0 5 3
— Madras		
— Do. mid. ord. and bad	0 5 1	— 0 8 11
Rice, Bengal White.....cwt	0 13 0	— 0 16 0
— Patna	0 18 0	— 1 1 0
Safflower	1 0 0	— 7 10 0
Sago	0 15 0	— 1 10 0
Saltpetre	1 1 6	— 1 2 0
Silk, Bengal Skein	0 0 1	— 0 9 8
— Novel		
— Ditto White		
— China	0 4 3	— 0 6 10
Spices, Cinnamon	0 2 6	— 0 3 0
— Cloves	0 4 6	— 0 5 6
— Mace	0 3 2	— 0 3 6
— Nutmegs	0 17 6	— 0 18 6
— Ginger	0 0 3	— 0 0 4
— Pepper, Black.....lb	0 1 2	— 0 2 0
— White		
Sugar, Bengal		
— Siam and China	1 17 0	— 2 3 0
— Mauritius	1 5 0	— 1 8 0
— Tea, Bohea	0 1 7	— 0 1 11
— Congou	0 2 3	— 0 3 0
— Souchong	0 2 10	— 0 3 4
— Campol		
— Twankay	0 2 7	— 0 3 2
— Pekoe	0 4 0	— 0 4 5
— Hyson Skin	0 2 4	— 0 3 9
— Hyson	0 4 0	— 0 4 6
— Young Hyson	0 3 0	— 0 3 11
— Gunpowder	0 5 0	— 0 5 5
Tortoiseshell	1 4 0	— 2 10 0
— Wood, Sanders Red.....ton	8 0 0	— 9 0 0

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

Oil, Southern	ton	30 0 0
— Spermin		67 0 0
— Head Matter		75 0 0
Wool	lb	0 2 0
Wool, Blue Gum	ton	0 7 10
— Cedar		0 0 4

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS, from May 26 to June 25.

May.	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3½ Pr. Ct. Consols.	3½ Pr. Ct. Red.	N. 4 Pr. Ct. Ann.	Annuities. Long.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.
26	—	82½	83½	1¼	—	89½	19½	245½	80p	52 53p
28	203½	82½	83½	1½	—	89½	19½	246½	83 84p	52 53p
29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	203½	83½	83½	4	89½	89½	19½	—	82 70p	41 49p
31	204½	83½	83½	—	89½	89½	19½	246½	—	44 47p
June										
1	203½	83½	83½	—	90½	90½	19½	—	82 86p	50 59p
2	204	83½	83½	—	90½	90½	19½	—	—	44 50p
4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	203½	83½	83½	—	90½	90½	19½	249½	77 80p	48 50p
7	204½	83½	83½	—	90½	89½	19½	—	78 79p	47 49p
8	203½	83½	83½	—	90	89½	19½	—	76 78p	46 48p
9	204½	83½	83½	—	90½	100	19½	—	76 78p	45 47p
11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12	204½	83½	83½	4	90½	90½	19½	—	78p	45 46p
13	204½	83½	83½	4	90½	90½	19½	—	79 80p	44 46p
14	204½	83½	83½	4	90½	90½	19½	—	78p	45 47p
15	204½	84½	84½	—	90½	90½	19½	—	80 82p	47 50p
16	205½	84½	84½	—	90½	90½	19½	—	—	49 51p
18	205½	84½	84½	5	91½	91½	19½	—	—	50 51p
19	205½	84½	84½	5	91½	91½	19½	—	84 85p	50 51p
20	—	83½	83½	—	92	91½	19½	—	83 85p	50 51p
21	206½	85½	85½	—	92½	92½	19½	—	83p	50 51p
22	—	85½	85½	—	92	91½	19½	—	84 85p	50 52p
23	206	85½	85½	—	92	91½	19½	—	86p	51 53p
25	205½	85½	85½	—	91½	91½	19½	—	86p	52 54p

THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR
AUGUST, 1827.

Original Communications,

8c. 8c. 8c.

APPEALS FROM INDIA.

APPEALS from the British territories in the East-Indies to his Majesty in Council were sanctioned on the establishment of a Supreme Court of Judicature for Bengal in the year 1773. By the Act 13 Geo. III. c. 63, commonly called the Regulating Act, any person or persons whatsoever, feeling aggrieved by a decision of the Supreme Court of Calcutta, might appeal to the King in Council, under the conditions prescribed by the charter of justice; which privilege was given by the Act 37 Geo. III. c. 142, to suitors in the Supreme Court of Madras and the Recorder's Court at Bombay, since also erected into a Court of Judicature.*

Appeals now lie from the inferior native courts to the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut (or Chief Civil Court), and from thence to the King in Council, in civil suits, the value of which shall be £5,000 or upwards; below that sum the Governor General in Council has an appellate jurisdiction, which is final; appeals also lie from the Supreme Courts of Judicature in the three presidencies to the King in Council, under the following conditions:—in those from Bengal and Madras the value of the matter in dispute must exceed 1,000 pagodas; the limit for Bombay is 3,000 rupees,

The right of appeal to the highest authority in the government is essential to the due administration of justice; but unless there be some provision made for the prompt hearing and determining of appeals, the mere power to bring them affords but an imperfect security: delays in this last stage offer a direct encouragement to the wealthy suitor to lodge appeals merely to protract the cause which he is conscious has been lost.

A series of returns to Parliament upon this subject has been recently printed;† and from this official source we extract the following statements respecting appeals from India.

An

* The Mayor's Court was the Court of Judicature in Madras till the year 1797, when it was superseded by a Recorder's Court, which gave way to a Supreme Court in 1801. A Supreme Court was not introduced at Bombay till 1823.

† Appeals from the Colonies: ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 1 June 1827.

AN ACCOUNT of all APPEALS from the three presidencies in India lodged or entered in the general book or list kept at the office of the Privy Council, since the 1st January 1815, inclusive, and now disposed of, with the names of the parties,* the places from whence the appeals were brought, and the mode in which each has been disposed of.

Years and Places.	Parties.	When lodged.	When disposed of.	In what mode.
1815. Madras.	Samuel Moorcartish Moorat, v. Adrian de Fries and others.	26 May.	24 Jan. 818	Judgment affirmed on regular hearing.
Bombay.	John Wade, v. Wm. Wilkinson.	9 Aug.		
1816. Madras.	Ousannah Carapiet and others v. Arathoon Tarkhan.	22 Feb.	7 May 818	Judgment reversed on regular hearing.
Bombay.	Ruttonjee Cursetjee & Muncherjee Gheesta, v. Nourojee Nasserwanjee and another.	4 May.	1 Feb. 819	Judgment affirmed on regular hearing.
Bombay.	Chokara Cuntra Packey, v. Fatima Bebee and others.	9 Dec.	19 June 819	Ditto.
1819. Bengal.†	Neelhunt Biswas, v. Rajah Mutterjeet Sing.	14 June	—	Dismissed for non-prosecution.
1821. Bengal.	Doe on dem. of Mullick and others, v. Saumcoomer Bebee.	30 Mar.	5 July 822	Judgment affirmed on <i>ex parte</i> hearing.
Bombay.	Landee Mohun Thakoor, v. Kishangebind Sain.	5 Dec.	22 Aug. 823	Dismissed for non-prosecution.
1822. Bengal.	Ramrutton Mullick, v. the East-India Company.	9 May.	5 July 825	Judgment affirmed on regular hearing.
Bengal.	Cossinauth Bysach and another, v. Illooroosoodery Dossee and another.	8 Aug.	12 July 826	Judgment affirmed on regular hearing.
1823. Bombay.	Hosannah Jacob Johannes v. Hormosjee Bomanjee.	1 Mar.	—	
Bengal.	Thakoor and another, v. Gobind Sain.	16 July.	21 Aug. 823	Dismissed for non-prosecution.
Bengal.	Appeal of J. S. Buckingham.	20 Oct.	23 May 825	Petition dismissed.
1826. Bengal.	Bycaunaut Paul Chowdry, v. Buddinaut Paul Chowdry.	7 Jan.	15 Feb. 826	Dismissed for non-prosecution.

AN ACCOUNT of all APPEALS from the three presidencies of India lodged since the 1st January 1815, now remaining undisposed of, with the names of the parties and the places from whence brought.

Years.	Places.	Parties.	When lodged.
1818.	Bengal.‡	Rajah Joynarain Roy, v. Rammanick Moody	11 March.
	Bengal.	Saul Dhokul Sing, v. Saul Rooderpertawp Sing.....	11 March.
1819.	Bengal.§	Gunga Dutt Jha, v. Sree Narrain Rac and another ..	5 January.
	Madras.	Colingaroy Moodelly, v. Poosala Mooneasawney Naidoo	12 March.
	Bengal.||	Kirtchunder Roy and others, v. Government, and Mohuncemohun Thakoor	14 June.
	Bengal.	Sree Narrain Rac, v. Rhaya Itha	14 June.
	Bengal.	Mirza Bundeh Ally (pauper), v. Hajee Mohummud Micksin	14 June.
	Bengal.	Domun Singtort, v. Hasseeram and Toolseram	14 June.
	Bengal.	Rajah Gopaul Indernarain Roy, security in the cause of Rajah Motelall, v. Rajah Guggenauth Georg... }	14 June.
1821.	Bengal.	Chundercoomer Tagore and others, v. Henry Alexander and others	8 June.

Bengal.

* The names of the parties are strangely deformed.

‡ *Idem.*

§ *Idem.*

† From the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut.

|| *Idem.*

Years.	Places.	Parties.	When lodged.
1821.	Bengal.	Baretto, v. Henry Alexander and others	8. June.
	Madras.*	{ Sabhaputty Moodely, v. Seevanaick, brother of Bee- mah Naick	11 October.
	Madras.	Sabhaputty Moodely, v. Teehanaick, of Bellary	11 October.
	Madras.	{ Rajah Roydupah Rungaroo Bahadoor Zumeendar, of Robbery, v. Rao Chinnunrah.....	11 October.
	Bengal.	Bhanoo Bebee, v. Mayut Ghazee, son of Iman Bukse	5 Dec.
	Bengal.	{ Sumbuchunder Chawdree, son of Sumbuchunder Chawdree dec., v. Narainoo Debeca	5 Dec.
	Madras.	{ Mootoo Vyca Raghoonada Setuputty, v. Savaganny Nachio	5 Dec.
	Madras.	{ Rao Chinnama, v. Rajah Roy Suppah Runga Rao Bahadar	5 Dec.
	Bombay.	{ Soorahjee, son of Vacha Ghundee, v. Koonwurjee Manuckjee	5 Dec.
	Bombay.	{ Burgojee and Roostanjee, sons of Ruttongee, v. Nedulgee Kaorgee	5 Dec.
1823.	Bengal.	{ Lewis Owen Edwards, v. Rowland Ronald and others	25 January.
	Bengal.	{ Ramtonoo Mullick and others, v. Rangopawl Mul- lick and others.....	18 Feb.
	Bombay.	{ Rustonjee Ruttongee Entee and another, v. Edubjee Cowasjee	24 May.
	Bombay.	Poomackhoteg Moodelie, v. the King	6 June.
	Bengal.	Charles Reed, v. Byjenaut Sing	18 June.
	Bombay.†	Prangeewun Duyaram, v. Kishundas Muloohchuid	30 October.
1824.	Bengal.	Praunkissen Biswas, v. Kismomindo Biswas.....	27 May.
	Madras.	J. D. White, v. Patrick Cleghorn.....	31 August.
	Madras.	The East-India Company, v. Syed Ally and others.}	20 Sept.
	Bengal.	{ Ramtonoo Mullick and others, v. Ramgopaul Mullick and others.....	29 Dec.
1825.	Bengal.	Praunkissen Biswas, v. Rajesory Daber and others...	29 March.
	Bombay.	The East-India Company, v. Cursetjee Manockjee ...	4 May.
	Bengal.	Muddoosondun Sandell, v. Collypers and Sandell...	2 July.
	Madras.	{ Rance Seragamy Naichiar, v. Stremathoo H. G. R. M. V. R. Setuputty	19 August.
	Bengal.	{ Roy Nockmence Meter, v. Rajah Doorbejj Sing, Ba- boo Chatterbeejj Sing and others	13 May.
1826.	Bengal.	Charles Reed and others, v. Rajnarain Ghose	13 January.
	Bombay.	The East-India Company, v. Cursetjee Manockjee ...	25 Feb.
	Bengal.	Sarah Broders, v. John Gordon and Wife	1 March.
	Bengal.	De Bast, v. McClintock	5 April.
	Bengal.	Clintock, v. Bagshaw.....	21 July.

LIST of the APPEALS from the three presidencies standing ready for hearing, with the date on which each appeal was entered.

Places.	Parties.	Date.	Observations.
Bengal.	Edwards, v. Ronald.	25 January 1823.	Stands over till further application.
Bengal.	Biswas, v. Biswas.	27 May 1824.	

AN ABSTRACT shewing the number of appeals entered from all the colonies and plantations, and from the decisions of the Commissioners for deciding British claims under treaties with France, distinguishing the number of appeals from the three presidencies of India, from the 1st January 1815 to the 31st December 1826; shewing also the number of days on which the Committee of Privy Council has sat for hearing such appeals,

* From the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut.

† From the Sudder Adawlut.

‡ This appeal was disposed of June 23d last. See p. 134.

appeals, and the number of appeals disposed of during each year, distinguishing those from India.

Years.	Days of Sitting.	No. of E. I. Appeals.	Total No. of Appeals.	No. of E. I. Appeals disposed of.	Total No. of Appeals disposed of.
1815	12	2	43	—	39
1816	11	3	22	—	29
1817	5	—	41	—	23
1818	7	2	43	2	25
1819	10	8	56	2	29
1820	11	—	44	—	23
1821	11	13	43	—	37
1822	9	2	31	1	19
1823	7	9	54	2	13
1824	12	4	47	—	26
1825	10	5	35	2	29
1826	16	6	35	2	27
	121	54	496	11*	319

From this last statement, which is extracted from several accounts in the Parliamentary Paper, it appears that during the twelve past years the Committee of Privy Council sat 121 days only; that in that period 496 appeals were lodged; that the Committee disposed of 319 appeals, which include, of course, the outstanding causes undecided in 1814, the number of which ought to have been shown to make the account complete.† So far the statement is not very unsatisfactory; but when we consider the East-India appeals separately, the matter assumes a different complexion.

We are left in total ignorance of the number of appeals from India which remained undisposed of at the period when these accounts commence. In the twelve succeeding years, the number of appeals entered in the books from the three presidencies was fifty-four; of this number only fourteen, at the utmost, have been disposed of, and only seven of that number after regular hearing: so that each appeal so disposed of has required, on an average, nearly two years. This is, however, too favourable a representation of the case. Of the appeals regularly heard, one was not decided till four years after entry in the books of the Privy Council; and three not till nearly three years. This is not all: of the outstanding appeals, two have been lodged nine years; seven have remained on the books for seven years, eleven for nearly six years, six for four years, &c. Yet we find that of the forty appeals from India undisposed of, only *two*, of comparatively recent date, stand ready for hearing, or have any chance of being shortly determined.

A court constituted like that of the Privy Council, must be expected to be somewhat slow in its decisions. We may even admit that it is desirable for the ends of justice that ample time should be given for considering the cases which come before it by way of appeal, and for weighing well judgments which are final and irreversible, and which constitute precedents of high authority for the guidance of the inferior tribunals. But the delay which exists in respect to East-India appeals seems as unreasonable and unaccountable as it must be ruinous to the parties concerned; and, we regret to say, it justifies the pointed

* From the first account, it will be seen that three other appeals are disposed of, but it does not appear in what mode or when.

† Only eight appeals of 1815 were disposed of in that year.

pointed language used by the Marquess of Lansdown, with reference to this subject, in the House of Lords.*

If the whole mass of colonial appeals stagnated equally, we should be better able to comprehend the cause of delay. But when we observe that of the appeals from the colonics generally there have been disposed of in the twelve years more than five-eighths of the number which the records show were entered in those years, and that the Indian appeals have fallen into such a lamentable state of arrear, it is a perplexing task to assign a probable reason for it. Lord Harrowby stated, in reply to Lord Lansdown's strictures, that the Privy Council knew nothing of any appeal causes until they were in a shape fit for trial; and that unless the appellants employed proper agents in this country, to look after the business and *settle the payment of fees*,† the council could take no cognizance of the matter, and (we conclude) a party may therefore hang up a cause as long as he pleases, without exposing himself to any risk from the court. Now this is precisely a condition of things most pregnant with mischief. A multitude of reasons may prevent a respondent from propelling a cause: it appears consequently essentially the duty of the court, when an appeal is once lodged and recorded, to provide for its due determination within a given period. The charters of justice granted to the courts of India require that a petition of appeal to the King in Council should be preferred within six months from the day on which the judgment or decision complained of was pronounced. Where is the equity, where the utility, of this severe regulation, if, after the suit be preferred and the appeal entered, the cause can be permitted to sleep *ad infinitum*? The suggestion of Lord Lansdown, that the outstanding appeals should be called over, and those not proceeded in dismissed, seems to provide a simple and an obvious remedy for the evil: it is besides consonant with the practice of our other courts, and seems absolutely necessary to check dishonest proceedings on the part of appellants, and to relieve the court itself from a constantly accumulating mass of appeals.

But it cannot be that the cause assigned by the President of the Council is the sole reason why East-India appeals are so slow and sluggish in their progress. There are cases which, to our own knowledge, call imperiously for decision, and in which the parties abroad and the agents at home are not likely to be dilatory or procrastinating. Can the cause referred to be the sole impediment to the hearing of the Raminad Appeal,‡ in which the property of a whole principality is involved; or to the determination of the causes in which the East-India Company are parties, either as appellants or respondents? In the case of "the Company, *v.* Cursetjee Manockjee," which is an appeal from the late Recorder's Court at Bombay, and appears to have been entered in the books of the Privy Council on the 4th May 1825, but is not yet set down for hearing, the transactions which are in question occurred nearly twenty-five years ago; and the sum claimed by the individual, and due to him according to the judgment of the court below, is no less than 5,27,445 Bombay rupees, or about £50,000 sterling. Here is a person, with a *prima facie* title to this large sum, who is unwillingly brought hither, and loses the present benefit of two or three thousand pounds a year at the least, by a delay which we must consider as attributable to the court, from the defects of its system and constitution.

In

* See Vol. XXIII, p. 666.

† The fees allowed to be charged on appeals and proceedings before the Privy Council amount to £15, 6s. 6d for each cause, according to the statement in the Parliamentary paper before us.

‡ This appeal, we believe, is considerably more ancient than the date at which the returns to Parliament commence.

In most instances those who impugn courts of justice in this country incur a very heavy responsibility, for they are justly charged with the *onus* of pointing out practicable means of amelioration, which, in such cases, it is not easy, or perhaps possible, to do. But in the present case, we apprehend, no such difficulty exists. The following expedients naturally suggest themselves.

In order to ensure the proper and expeditious prosecution of all appeals from India, let these regulations be adopted:—1st. Let a period be prescribed for the hearing of every appeal after it has once been lodged, and when that period has elapsed, if the parties are not prepared, let the appeal be struck out, unless satisfactory and very special grounds be assigned for the delay. 2d. Let a list of the depending causes be called over at certain periods, and let those in which no step shall have been taken after ample time, or in which there shall have been an obvious delay in the proceedings of the appellant, be dismissed, unless sufficient cause be shewn to explain the delay and justify their retention. 3d. Let every appellant be required, on lodging his appeal, to enter into good and sufficient security not merely to prosecute it without delay, but to bring it into a shape for hearing within a definite time, and to pay whatever costs shall be awarded by the court; the penalty in the bond to bear a proportion to the sum in dispute in money cases; where the matter in appeal is of a different kind, the bond to be as similar as may be to that required in cases of appeal against the Governor-General of India, by the Act 21 Geo. III., c. 70, sec. 5. The several grades and periods of progress should be liberally extended, in consideration of the distance of communication, and the constructive *laches* should be well defined.

Were such regulations now in existence, the account of appeals standing ready for hearing would not contain (as that before us does) a statement that some “stand over till further application,” and others “stand over by consent.”

These regulations, and others of a similar character, would counteract causes of delay on the part of the appellants. Some arrangements, however, seem necessary to prevent the stoppage of appeals in the court itself.

It was intimated by the Lord President of the Council, in answer to an inquiry from Lord Lansdown, on the occasion already referred to, whether the evil was to be charged upon the composition of the Privy Council itself, and its want of local information, that no delay had occurred from that source. But, considering the few members of that most honourable board who are qualified, by legal education and local experience, to be judges of appeals from India, which are utterly dissimilar to all other colonial causes, and absolutely require a peculiar direction of study and much practical conversation with the details of Indian business on the part of the judges of appeal for the ends of substantial justice;—considering this, we may be permitted to doubt whether this cause may not *in future*, should the progress of Indian appeals be accelerated, oppose some impediment. But surely the means of providing against this obstacle are practicable.

Instead of selecting judges from our equity, law, and ecclesiastical courts (which can ill spare frequently so many as are now taken), with a very slight admixture of gentlemen who have been resident in India (added to the number of judges, perhaps, from that circumstance alone), a court, we humbly think, might be constructed of Privy Councillors analogous to that extraordinary tribunal for the trial of persons accused of offences committed in the East-Indies, first created by the Act 24 Geo. III., c. 25, and afterwards modified by the 26 Geo. III., c. 57. By these acts a special court of judi-
cature

cature is constituted in England, to consist of three judges from the courts of law at Westminster, namely, one from each court, and twelve commissioners chosen from the two houses of Parliament in the following manner:—Within the first thirty sitting days of the House of Lords, each peer may give in a list of twenty-six peers, enclosed in covers, entitled “East-India Judicature,” which lists are opened by the clerk of the Parliaments, who reports the names of those peers who shall appear in ten or more of the lists; the members of the House of Commons may deliver in to that house lists containing forty names, to be treated in a similar manner: these sixty-six names are to be put into a box, and the names of five peers and seven commoners drawn therefrom, in the manner directed by the last recited act, who are to be added to the three judges; and ten of the aggregate number to be what is commonly called a *quorum*. It is not expedient or necessary to follow this precedent servilely, and make the court a sessional one. The selection may be made in the manner thus directed, and the members may retain their places *durante bene placito*, or otherwise, as may be deemed most desirable for the ends of justice. As peers are hereditary councillors, it will be necessary to advance but a few members of the other house to that dignity, of which they would thus be pronounced worthy by the consent of a large body of their fellow members. No person can look over the list of members in the lower house of Parliament without being convinced that it includes men well adapted by talent and experience, local or otherwise, to be members of such a board; and there are many individuals now resident in this country, several we could easily name, possessing distinguished abilities for the office, who would cheerfully become members of the Legislature, if such an honourable inducement were held out to them as the probability of their being chosen by the suffrages of the House of Commons to a post where they could render essential services to their own country and to the people of India, and whereby they would enjoy a distinction amongst their fellow subjects, more acceptable than the receipt of mere pecuniary compensation, and which they would justly earn.

Some argument might be extracted from the paucity of appeals from India, compared with those from the colonies generally, against the necessity of alteration, which few could be relieved by; but it should be recollected that the delay and expense, added to the uncertainty inseparable from this recourse to a remote tribunal, may, for aught we know to the contrary, be the occasion of the rarity of appeals from the eastern courts. At all events, the argument is better adapted to show that the right of appeal might better be taken away altogether. This would be a course which, although in some cases beneficial to both parties, under the present system, we hope never to see adopted. It is a right which is already confined within limits sufficiently narrow; and should there be a time when party spirit tainted the courts of India, or an instance in which personal pique or resentment influenced a judge (we do not contemplate such causes as corruption and venality) to pronounce an unjust judgment, the absence of the right of appeal would surrender a party to a weapon which it would tempt the oppressor to wield.

BISHOP HEBER'S HYMNS.

FROM an elegant volume of "Hymns written and adapted to the weekly church service of the year," mostly by the late Bishop of Calcutta, recently published by his Lordship's widow, we extract the following, as specimens at once of the lamented prelate's poetical taste and real piety.*

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

When Spring unlocks the flowers, to paint the laughing soil ;
When Summer's balmy showers refresh the mower's toil ;
When Winter binds in frosty chains the fallow and the flood,
In God the earth rejoiceth still, and owns his master good.

The birds that wake the morning, and those that love the shade ;
The winds that sweep the mountain or lull the drowsy glade ;
The sun that from his amber bower rejoiceth on his way,
The Moon and Stars, their Master's name in silent pomp display.

Shall Man, the lord of Nature, expectant of the sky,
Shall Man, alone unthankful, his little praise deny ?
No, let the year forsake his course, the seasons cease to be,
Thee, Master, must we always love, and Saviour, honour Thee.

The flowers of Spring may wither, the hope of Summer fade,
The Autumn droop in Winter, the birds forsake the shade ;
The winds be lulled—the Sun and Moon forget their old decree,
But we in Nature's latest hour, O Lord ! will cling to Thee.

ON RECOVERY FROM SICKNESS.

Oh, Saviour of the faithful dead,
With whom Thy servants dwell,
Though cold and green the turf is spread
Above their narrow cell,—

No more we cling to mortal clay,
We doubt and fear no more,
Nor shrink to tread the darksome way,
Which Thou hast trod before !

'Twas hard from those I loved to go,
Who knelt around my bed,
Whose tears bedewed my burning brow,
Whose arms upheld my head !

As, fading from my dizzy view,
I sought their forms in vain,
The bitterness of death I knew,
And groaned to live again.

'Twas dreadful when th' Accuser's power
Assailed my sinking heart,
Recounting every wasted hour,
And each unworthy part :

But, Jesus ! in that mortal fray,
Thy blessed comfort stole,
Like sunshine in a stormy day,
Across my darkened soul !

* Several of the Hymns in the collection were printed in this journal, vol. xvii, p. 311, 644.

HINDU HISTORY OF CEYLON.

(Concluded from p. 54.)

60. On their way they all first came to Coombeconam, and having performed the holy ceremonies, requested the high priest to let them have some priests to accompany them.

61. The high priest accordingly sent for six priests, named Arooner, Moottoolingetever, Tandewerayer, Tesatarar, Paramar, and Tiroomkooler, who appeared and bowed down before the high priest.

62. And having blessed them, he gave them the deity Cattovinayeger to keep and worship as a family deity.

63. He also gave them sixty free Covias to blow chanks, and thirty of the Weeramagesoorer, forty of the Weeramsotten, eight Tader worshippers of the deities Wurapattiren and Ayenar ;

64. And after blessing them all, told them to proceed to Ceylon, and there to live and govern the places for ever and ever ; and desired the Wannia women to procure places for these retainers and servants, and otherwise to protect them.

65. While they were on their voyage to Ceylon, one Nandy, son of Wulchinga Aratchy, and Illenjinga Mapanen, of the Wanny district, had sent their messengers to Madura, and communicated the death of the Wannias.

66. And the messengers accordingly proceeded, and on their way arrived at Jaffnapatnam, where they met the Wannia women, and informed them of the death of all their chiefs, except one, who was a dessave under the king of Candy ; and five others, who ruled the five provinces of the Wanny districts, proceeded to Madura.

67. As soon as the Wannia women heard this, they being grieved and sorrowful for the loss of their husbands, proceeded to Sellechy, and throwing themselves upon the fire made for that purpose, perished there, except the wife of the dessave, and those of the five Wannias who proceeded to Madura.

68. And accordingly the five Wannia women ruled the five provinces, receiving tribute from Illenjingawagoo, as adjutant Wannia under them.

69. Then three of the Wannias who accompanied these women from their country settled at Moogemale, and the Madapallies, Palliwillies, Adiweramalewerayen, Nielemalewerayen, at Jaffnapatnam, Poobale Wannias and Copalers at Triyay and Cattocolam ;

70. Willewerayen at Nalloor, other Madapallies at Manipay, Caveres, Comatties, and Tillemoowayirewen at Warreny, and the people of India and Toolker at the sea-side ;

71. Sirvitander and Edecatter at Wawettymaley ; Moottolinger went to Cadiramaley, and lived there under the name of Nasegen. Tiroomkooner, under the name of Madangamamoogan, lived at the sea-shore ; and Tandewerasar, who lived at Triyay,

72. Built temples and palaces at the Mount Swanimaley and Wallimaley, and after marrying Tiroomvaley, he lived there, worshipping the deities and making them offerings.

73. The priest Tesatarar, worshipper of the deity Cattovinayeger, with the woman Vellekyasy, and sixty Covias or chank blowers, lived at Mullipattoo.

74. The thirty Sangamar, forty Veramootty, and the eight Tader, lived at Kirdawill ; the Pallivileis, Papparer, Coochilier, Moors, Chitties, Careas, Cingalese people, Chinese, Marawas, and Singasooren, lived at Noogarey.

75. Teverasen, of the tribe of kings, Kilicattan, Coditeven, and Candavanatan, lived at Chittycoolapady, and Oottoongarasen and Sadoortigiry lived at Panangamo.

76. Mattagiry, Soobatittoo, Adivereen, Oogemylen and Vavoonaden, lived at Manar; Attagirion, Sodinaden, Anoodoongendren and Rasingawagoo, at Toonookay,

77. As well as Neelynar, Weerenagarar and Wary. Sammandamoorthy, his relations, and Weerawagoo, lived at Cattoocoolapady.

78. Sangaran lived at Tiriay; Angasen and his relations proceeded to Trincomalee; Maroden and Sandregasen lived on the other side of the river. Now let us relate the manners of the persons who ruled these countries.

79. That the wives of the Wannias who burnt themselves at Sellichewaykal became cannimar, or virgins, and natchimar, or nymphs; the sixty Pallas who brought the horses and burnt themselves, became annamar, or deities; and the seven sons of Nandy, of Ceylon, turned to holy images.

80. There were sixty wells at Wattoowagal, where these Wannia women with contrition adored the deity Sangaran; and after having obtained all blessings, they lived as natchimar, making Agooren and Metchen, of the tribe of Parreas, their forerunners.

81. Afterwards these Wannia women, who ruled the Wanny districts, departed this life, and the fisherman or navigator who conveyed them to Ceylon went to Palemoney, and lived there with the Papparers.

82. In those days Illeateven, son of the dessave, proceeded to Maroongoor, where he married one Coonjy, and after returning from thence he killed Canagavagoo and Tissewilingan, and ruled the Wanny district.

83. That the eldest brother of Eleateven, named Nallamapanen, proceeded to Moogamale, and after marrying Petta, one of the two daughters of the Wannia, ruled that place.

84. After the death of Coolangasakkrawatty, king of Candy, who received elephants as tribute, his son, Singekavelen, was crowned king of that kingdom by the title of Sakkrewatty.

85. The king being thus crowned, was reigning over the kingdom with popularity, when a certain Soobatittoo moony, or holy man, appeared before the king;

86. Who, after prostrating before this moony, set him on the throne as his father, when the moony said, that he wished to relate to the king the injuries and afflictions which this kingdom was to undergo.

87. Upon which, the king observing the speech of the moony, earnestly begged him to relate it, and the moony assured him that he would do it so as the king might perceive or comprehend the same in such a manner as he would the fruit called nelliangany, in his hand (and which is perceivable through and through).

88. "After the expiration of 4,420 years, in the age Kalee, a minister of the king Rasingan will proceed to Wavettimale,

89. "Where he will in a well deposit forty elephants' load of gold, and seven nagaritam or gem of snake, and in those days your time will be elapsed, and you will go to glory.

90. "In which days your children Sangalee Pararasesegeren Segerasesegeren, with crown and sword which they will obtain, will proceed to Adangapattoo,

91. "Where they will, at the Mount Moodeliankolloo, build palaces and dancing places, and make streets, and keep there, under guard, the crown, the sword, and umbrella.

"92. And

92. "And also having placed there the deity Oonmatte Wayrewer, they will govern the place, at which time the youngest one will kill the two eldest by poisoning, when the Portuguese will come.*

93. "In the year 5173 of the age Kalee, the king Sangalee making war with the Portuguese will perish; after which the Portuguese will unjustly govern the kingdom.

94. "Accordingly, for the period of forty years, during which they will destroy the religion of Siven, and the ceremonies thereof, which will be till the year 5213, after which the Dutch will come and govern the kingdom

95. "Until the year 5795, when on the 6th of June the English will come and govern the place, subjecting the whole world under them.

96. "While they govern uprightly, and according to the Tamul law, in the year Oodirotkoly 802, the English will proceed to the kingdom of the king Rasingan, and there many people will perish.

97. "Thus the people will perish because the crown, sword, umbrella, shield, and the deity Cawly are guarding there, and the people of the world will then suffer by the deity Cawly.

98. "Afterwards rain will be scarce, the crops will fail, the cattle perish, and while the English govern, in 875, enemies will arise from every part.

99. "When the kings of the Dutch, French, Caffrees, joining and eating together, will ungratefully do evil and govern all the world as theirs; when in 898 Singattar will be born.

100. "And he after that will govern the northern, western, and other lands, under his sceptre, and be esteemed and praised by every person; he will then come to Ceylon, and being crowned, govern it agreeably to the ancient time, and be praised by all the world."

* This is related in the form of a prophecy, according to Oriental custom, though the events referred to had taken place.—*Ed.*

A WELL-KNOWN GAZ'L OF HAFIZ.*

IMITATED.

درد عشقی کشته ام که میرس

WHILST banished from my love I pine,
Ask me not what pangs are mine;
And ask me not the fair-one's name,
Whose matchless charms my heart inflame.
Ask me, O ask me not to tell
How many bitter tear-drops fell,
When my fond eyes last saw her face,
And her retiring steps did trace.
Nor ask me basely to betray
The tender words the maid did say;
Or if her lip I dared to press,
Ask not Hafiz to confess.
Doomed now to nurse eternal care,
O ask not what my sorrows are:
An exile from the charmer's gate,
What tongue can tell my wretched state!

* Often sung by the nautch-girls in Bângal.

POLISH ANTHOLOGY.

"If there be any case in which it is natural to look with peculiar interest to the literary history of nations, it is when, by a series of calamities—and not of crimes—a people once distinguished has fallen from a high position. To Poland, after ages of national greatness, nothing now remains but her past records and her ancient fame. If recollections of power and, thoughts of liberty sometimes pass through the mind of her more gifted children, such emotions must be suppressed; for how should meet utterance be given to them? Poland is now 'the shadow of a name;' and that futurity which is so dark, even for happier nations, seems to offer no single ray of hope to those among whom Kosciuszko wielded a sword never drawn but in the cause of freedom, and to whom Sarbiewski addressed his plaintive musings :

'Stat tacitus cinis

Cui serus inscribat viator :

Cum populo jacet hic et ipso

Cum Rege Regnum.'—Lib. ii. Od. 5."

These remarks, as just as they are well expressed, occur at the commencement of the preface to an elegant little volume of "Specimens of the Polish Poets," just published by Mr. Bowring. This gentleman has made a most extensive circuit throughout the literature of Europe, penetrating into its most obscure recesses, and bringing to light the treasures they contain. He has already favoured us with specimens of the poetry of Russia, Holland, Spain, Servia, and now of Poland: the nation last-mentioned perhaps offers stronger claims than the others to regard from the literary world.

The name of Poland conciliates many of our feelings, and enlists some prejudices in its favour. We became acquainted, at an early period of life, with the elegant latinity of Sarbiewski, commonly and better known by the name of Casimir; maturer studies familiarize us with the noble struggles made by the nation for that independence which, though lost, is still the idol of its idolatry; and we think of Kosciuszko with feelings akin to those which associate themselves with the names in Thucydides and Livy; we dwell, too, upon its acknowledged pre-eminence in early ages over the nations around it; upon its universities, its numerous schools and seminaries; and lastly, we venerate Poland for having given birth to Copernicus.

Mr. Bowring has prefixed to the specimens a brief sketch of the language and literature of Poland: he apologizes for its length, but we should have been better pleased if he had, even at the expense of another volume, favoured us with a fuller disquisition upon the literature of this interesting country, and a more copious analysis of the characters of Polish writers. We gain little by being provided with a list of authors who treat of this subject in the Latin, German, and Polish tongues: few are able and fewer willing to consult them.

The Polish language is a dialect of the Sclavonian, but more modified and modernized by intercourse with the literature of the south than the Russian, the Servian, and other branches of the same stock. In writing it exhibits a repulsive aspect, by reason of its being written in the Roman character; for our alphabet is unable to express the thirty-six Sclavonian sounds but by combinations (then imperfectly), and those which are adopted are unsightly. For example, *cz* have the soft sound of our *ch*; *sz*, that of *sh*; *zxcz*, that of *shch*; *rz*, that of the French *j*, &c., so that words, to appearance unpronounceable by our organs, are really harmonious. Then the variety of its modifications of sound makes

makes it singularly rich : the *a* and the *e* have three distinct sounds respectively ; the *ô*, the *c*, the *l*, the *m*, the *n*, the *p*, the *s*, the *w*, and the *z*, have two, and some of them three distinctly marked varieties of sound, independently of many produced by compound formations. "It is the most difficult," says Mr. Bowring, "whilst it is the most polished, of the Slavonian languages."

The progress of knowledge and the arts in Poland may be distinctly traced, in Mr. Bowring's opinion, to the establishment of the Cracow University, which he dates in 1347; that of Wilna was 200 years later. The first book printed in Poland was the Cracow Calendar in 1490. "In the sixteenth century, almost every considerable town had a printing press; and the subsequent activity of the literary spirit in Poland may be estimated from the fact that the Zaluskan library (lately removed to St. Petersburg) contained more than twenty thousand works in Polish."

Mr. Bowring has inserted in the original a hymn which is the earliest specimen of the Polish language now extant, and believed to be of high antiquity: it is beautifully imitated in the ode of Casimir, beginning—

Diva per latas celebrata terras.

The introduction of the Latin language, which accompanied that of Christianity, into Poland, seems to have condemned much of the ancient poetry to oblivion. Although the historians of Poland have referred to the popular metrical compositions, no piece, the date of which could be fixed with certainty to a period anterior to the fifteenth century, has been spared, except the hymn just mentioned. The original of the following song, which is very ancient, exists only in the Slavono-Polish dialect, as spoken in Volhynia.

THE THREE FOUNTAINS.

There are three stars in the heaven's blue deep,
And brightly they shine, though silently;
On the plain three silver fountains leap:
And there stood beside them ladies three,—
A wife, a widow, a virgin maid;
And thus to the rippling streams they said,
The wife hung over the fount, and there
Pour'd from her hand its waters clear:

"Wave of the fountain! counsel me:
Do I a husband's love possess;
Will fondness and fidelity
Bring me the flowers of happiness?"

"O yes! while in Virtue's path thou art,
Bliss shall thine and thy husband's be:
Should thy faith wax cold, and be false thy heart,
Thine shall be shame and misery."

Lonely and gloomy the widow stood,
And mingled her tears with the gushing flood.

"Sorrow is mine! for what dark deed
Am I forced to wander alone below;
Has God, to punish my sins, decreed
That mine should be helpless, hopeless woe?"

"Rise, widow, rise with the dawn of day,
Dry up thy tears and thy woes forget,
And pray to the River-God—humbly pray,
And he shall give thee a husband yet."

At the neighbouring fountain sighed the maid,
And she took a wreath of flowers from her head.

"The streams flow on, and the wild-winds sweep,—
River-God! give me a husband soon;
Clung to his bosom let me sleep,
And mine be the bright and blessed boon."

"Fling not thy wreath in the stream, fair maid!
A noble youth shall be given to thee;
Soon thou shalt marriage-garlands braid,
And many the days of thy joy shall be."

The sixteenth century was the bright period of Polish literature; the Polish language was then employed by the court and polite society; Sigismund Augustus used no other, and he required the laws of Poland to be circulated in that tongue. "Translations of the ancient classics, and of the most distinguished moderns, were circulated extensively; and the poets of Poland, of whom Rey of Naglowic must be deemed the earliest, follow in an unbroken line from the middle of the sixteenth century downwards." Poland had the good fortune to possess in later times a prince who was at once the example and the encourager of scholars.

King Stanislaus Augustus, alike a philosopher and a patron of philosophy, gave an example of encouragement to men of letters, which soon influenced the aristocracy, and widely communicated his fostering and protecting spirit. Almost every species of learning found promotion, and the Polish language especially began to be cultivated and enriched by the industry and genius of a numerous band of national authors. The district schools spread themselves over the country, and the Polish tongue became the instrument of legislation and the representative of political reform. The vicissitudes of hope and fear—the vibrations between extinction and national existence, which in the latter half of the last century agitated the Polish people—communicated a strange excitement to inquiry, and awakened all the dormant spirit of the nation. The Association of the Friends of Knowledge in Warsaw (1801) led to most interesting discussions on popular topics, and the establishment of the Grand Dukedom of Warsaw (1807-1812) rekindled the old dreams of patriotic excitement. More than six hundred central schools existed at the beginning of the present century. At this hour there exist in Poland the Warsaw, the Lemberg, and Cracow universities, eleven palatine schools in the eight Voivodeships, fourteen principal department schools (*szkoły wydzielone*), and nine for subdepartments; two lycæums, twelve gymnasiums, and innumerable elementary and private establishments for education.

Kochanowski is the earliest of the poets whose specimens are given in this collection. He was born in 1530, and died in 1584. His writings are various; mirthful and melancholy; translations, satires, and tragedies. He derives his reputation chiefly from a series of *Laments*, wherein he mourns the loss of a little child, and which are replete with tenderness. One of them we inserted in our last number (p. 4).

Szymonowicz is a pastoral writer; he, however, published some religious dramas, which were popular, when such compositions suited the public taste. He died in 1624.

Zimorowicz was a friend and imitator of the preceding: he has more poetical force, but less grace and harmony. The following piece, which is called a *Sielanka* (derived from *Sielo*, a village, and equivalent to *Pastoral*), is pretty. Its date is the beginning of the 17th century.

Zephyr! that gently o'er Ukraine art flying,

Go and salute my Marina for me;

Whisper her tenderly, soothingly sighing,

"Lo! he has sent these soft accents to thee!"

Why dost thou dwell, my sweet maiden, so lonely?

Why dost thou dwell in so gloomy a spot?

Think of the palace of Leopold;*—only

Think, my fair maid! though thou visit it not.

There in thy bower is a window, where seated

Often thou sheddest a smile on thy swain;—

There have my sighs oft an audience intreated;—

Maiden! that window invites thee again.

Lady! the thought of thy absence has shaded

Even the flow'rets with sorrow and gloom;

All the bright roses and lilies are faded,

And my gay orchard is stripp'd of its bloom.

Come, my fair maid, with thy beautiful blushes,

Shine o'er our turrets—O come for a while,

Smile on us, Lady,—O smile,—though Red Russia's

Twice-castled towers may deserve not thy smile.

Lo! it expects thee,—its *Lions*† await thee,

Watching like sentinels fix'd on the height;

Sleepless and eager to welcome and greet thee,

When thy fair vision shall dawn on their sight.

Haste, maiden, haste! scatter blessings around thee;

Laughter and wit are awaiting thee here;

Courtesies, feastings, and smiles shall be found thee,

Wanderings‡ and wassails to honour thee, dear!

Here have we centred the graces and pleasures,

Come, thou bright lady! inherit them now;—

Russia pours out all her charms and her treasures,

Nothing is wanting,—O nothing, but Thou.

Sarbiewski, or Casimir, is well known from his Latin odes. He was educated by the jesuits, filled the theological chair at Wilna, was court preacher to Wladislaw IV., and died in 1640. He is only one of many Poles who have published Latin poetry. We are told, indeed, that in the time of Dr. Conner, "almost all the common people spoke Latin currently;" and even now, Mr. Bowring tells us, the use of that language is very extensive: it is universal, we know, in a debased state, amongst the peasants of Wallachia.

Gawinski is another pastoral poet, of whom specimens are given in this collection. He was also an epigrammatical writer, but his success in the latter department of composition appears not to be remarkable.

Krasicki, archbishop of Gniezno, belongs to the present age; he died in 1801. "He was the popular poet of his country, beloved for his exemplary virtues and his cultivated understanding." Besides his comic tales and fables, upon which his renown chiefly rests, he has written plays, romances, odes, and epistles; he is the author of a satire on the absurdities of the Monkish system, of an imitation of the burlesque piece attributed to Homer, which he called *Myszies*, or "Battle between the Cats and the Mice," (Mr. Bowring terms it improperly "a Polish *Batrachomyomachia*"), and lastly of an epic, named "The War of Chocim." Mr. Bowring has given a sample of the latter.

Wegierski, a licentious and satirical poet, seems to have resembled Piron

or

* Leopold is the capital of Red Russia, Roxolania, now Austrian Galicia. It was founded by Leo Raku, whence its name.

† Lions.—The arms of Leopold are lions.

‡ Original:—ramblings in the country.

or Tassoni. The following is one of the few pieces of this writer's which can be quoted at length: Mr. Bowring's extracts are necessarily fragments.

The end of life is happiness.—Pursue
That end life's transitory journey through,
Nor fear, on earth, while happiness pursuing
That thou art storing up for heaven thy ruin.
But if thou fear the future, O beware
At every step, and tread with cautious care ;
For in this world—to sin, and sin unheeded,
A very decent character is needed :
So get a character, and then just do
Whate'er you please—the world will smile on you.

Niemcewicz is a voluminous, yet a successful writer ; poet, tragedian, historian, and translator. Amongst his efforts in the latter capacity, we find translations of several English poets, Pope, Gray, and Wordsworth.

Brodzinski is a living poet, of decided genius ; he has translated the *Lay of the Last Minstrel*. He wrote the *Legionist*, a poem founded upon the circumstance of the Polish emigrants forming a part of Buonaparte's army of Italy, under the title of "Polish legionists." The nationality of Brodzinski's genius seems to have procured for him a great popularity. Mr. Bowring has quoted largely from this writer, but the pieces are too long for insertion here.

The last poet in the collection is Jach Szyrna, of whom no biographical sketch is given. The reason probably is this, namely, that he is a living friend of the editor, who, with commendable taste and delicacy, has left his works to speak the merits of the writer. We subjoin one of the pieces as a sample of the Polish poet's manner.

THE WENDISH POSTILLION.

Across Lusatia's sandy plains
A youth both fair and gay
Drove on, and rung his cheerful horn
For pastime on his way.
And oft he tuned his horn ; but still
The self-same notes he play'd ;
And yet no griefs have dimm'd his smile,
Though cares his heart invade.
" But why repeat the self-same song,
With an unvarying tone ;—
Has music in this land, but one,
But one sweet voice alone ?"
' O many a song we sing ; for songs
Bring rapture to the breast :—
But one is dearer far than all—
Far dearer than the rest.'
" Why round thy hat these roses red,
Flowers of unvaried hue ;
O tell me in what garden fair
These lovely roses grew ?"
' O, all our fields are full of flowers ;—
With flowers we deck the maid ;
With roses wreath the lover's brow,
And gird the infant's head.'

"And well the rose becomes thy youth,"

"'Twas gather'd by my fair."

"And sweetly dost thou sing thy song."

'My maiden taught the air.'

So spoke the youth, while blushes deep

Across his warm cheeks roved;

He turn'd away his bright blue eyes,

And sigh'd to her he loved.

Again he waked the notes;—they roll'd

Through glade and grove along:

How blest our maiden's rose to wear,

And sing our maiden's song!

We congratulate Mr. Bowring upon having found in Polish poetry a subject much more congenial to his talents than that of Servia. The present volume well deserves to be read, and proves incontestably that "the chasm in foreign literature, which an almost total ignorance of Polish authors has left," is a gross injustice to those authors.

THE ARABIAN NIGHTS.

Mr. Von Hammer, who some years ago suggested, upon the authority of Masudi, that the tales of the Thousand and One Nights, commonly termed "The Arabian Nights' Entertainments," were not originally Arabian, but Indian, or more probably Persian tales, has recently made a discovery which removes the ground of doubt entertained by some critics upon the subject. Mr. Von Hammer quoted the passage in Masudi from a MS. at Constantinople in the possession of Count Italinski, the Russian envoy at the Ottoman Porte. The passage, however, was not to be found in other MSS.; but subsequently, Mr. Von Hammer had a second opportunity of examining the Italinski copy, at Rome, and has verified the fact. It appears from the statement of Masudi that these tales, which that writer considers to have been invented for royal amusement, are of Indian or Persian origin; that they were denominated in the original *Hezar Efsan*, or "the Thousand Fables;" that the true name of the daughter of the vizir is not *Chehrzadeh*, but *Chirzadeh* (the former signifying "born of the city," the latter "born of a lion," or "of milk"); that her companion, *Dinarzadeh*, was her nurse, not her sister; and, lastly, that the history of Sinbad the Sailor formed no part of the original tales, but is one of the romances, or traditions (as Masudi terms them), compounded, "like many other translations from the Persian, the Hindu, and the Greek languages, in imitation of the "Thousand Fables," and subsequently incorporated therewith.

Mr. Von Hammer had conjectured that these tales were translated from the Persian into Arabic in the reign of the Caliph Mamoun; and it appears that Masudi, in another chapter, has expressly said that in the reign of Mamoun not only were works of science begun to be translated, but books of fables, and tales like that of Sinbad.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE FINANCES OF THE COLONY.

THE Second Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry at the Cape of Good Hope, which will be the subject of the present article, is upon the finances of the colony, and the arrangements proposed in order to make effectual provision for the charges to be incurred in the maintenance of its establishments.

The settlement of the lands of the Cape Peninsula, formed by the isthmus which separates Table Bay from False Bay, was originally made with the object of supplying the Dutch East-India Company's ships. The lands were granted in freehold, and the settlers were exempted from taxes for three years, at the end of which they paid one-tenth of the produce, the whole of which they were bound to sell to the Company, who exacted also a tenth of all stock from pasture lands. Other restrictions were imposed, a relaxation of which was subsequently permitted; and eventually the trade was partially liberated, but without any material reform of the system of revenue.

The tracts progressively taken from the natives were granted on annual leases, with an engagement to pay tithes in cattle to the Company. In 1711 the tithe was extended to wine and cattle generally; and in succeeding years an impost was levied upon wine produced and wine exported.

The tithes were farmed, which occasioned many grievances to the colonists, who remonstrated in 1792 through the Burgher Senate, and from the report of a committee in that year, it appeared that from 1781 to 1791, there had been levied in direct taxes upon the colonists a sum equal to £176,889. The farm was subsequently abolished; but all appeals for reduction of the tithe on grain and other imposts were fruitless. In 1797 the tithe was levied upon flour; but by a proclamation of General Dundas in 1801 a remission of this duty was conceded. From this period no alteration was made in the nominal rate of the tax, which was fixed in sterling value. The whole amount of the tithes collected in 1824 did not exceed 66,061 rix-dollars.

From the extension of the colony, and the consequent increase of establishments, another class of taxes was imposed, denominated *Opgaaf*; they constituted a further tax upon produce and stock, and included a capitation tax. In consequence of the inequality in the rate of the *opgaaf* assessments, they were revised in 1814; and it was provided that the assessments in one district should be made available for the expenses of the others.

Another tax, called the *Commando*, on the principle of the *opgaaf*, has been levied since 1812: it is a commutation for personal service in defence of the frontiers. The amount raised, which was to be applied to the maintenance of a corps on the frontier, was 61,000 rix dollars; each district contributed its quota according to the number of male inhabitants, which, being variable, has rendered the burthen unequal and the produce uncertain.

The measure, to which reference was made in the preceding report, of converting the tenure of lands by loan leases into a more permanent tenure, by a perpetual quit rent, wise and politic as it was, the Commissioners state to have been attended with a practical error, in making the increased rent dependent on the conversion of the tenures, which was declared to be optional; and by the refusal of the holders of the loan leases to accept the new tenure, the measure has been retarded and the revenue has suffered. The aggregate amount

amount of the rents upon lands held under various tenures on the 31st December 1825 was 126,632 rix dollars, but the sum actually collected was only 98,228 rix dollars.

The report then particularizes the manner of collecting the various assessments, including rates raised for partial purposes, or such as are strictly local in their application. The description of these minor sources of revenue is accompanied by occasional suggestions for their improvement or entire abrogation. The Commissioners think that the whole of the opgaaf taxes might be commuted for assessments more just in principle and more simple in operation. They recommend, 1st. that the land rents should be assessed more strictly and uniformly throughout the colony; 2d. that such part of the opgaaf taxes as constitute an assessment on the stock and produce should be comprehended in the revised assessment of the land rents, and that the personal assessments should be more equitably imposed; 3d. that a more prompt and efficacious mode of collecting the assessed taxes should be adopted by entrusting them to the civil commissioners, whose functions are described in the preceding report. The Commissioners also recommend some material modifications of the commando tax and the capitation tax, the former to be still regarded as temporary.

They suggest the imposition of a permanent tax of ten shillings per head upon all slaves between ten and sixty years of age; and upon all free male servants and apprentices between sixteen and sixty. They justify the former tax by adverting to the profits derived from the labour of slaves in the colony; and are of opinion that this tax may, as the circumstances of the colony improve, be doubled on the slaves. A tax of ten shillings on each registered slave would produce, they estimate, at least £12,000. The tax upon servants they consider to be equally politic and just, in consideration of the high wages enjoyed by European servants in the colony. The number of male apprentices and free servants is estimated at 10,000: this tax would therefore produce £5,000.

A variety of smaller assessments are then suggested in lieu of others. Into these details it is impossible to enter, without consuming much space, and they are of a very subordinate interest. On the subject of the custom duties, the following remarks occur:

Since the year 1819 the duties have been required to be paid before the goods pass the custom-house, and directly upon the invoice prices; but an exception has been made in favour of the East-India Company, whose agent is permitted to land their investments, and after disposing of them by public auction, to pay the custom duties upon the net proceeds of the sales. In our report upon the trade of the colony we shall have occasion particularly to advert to the effects of this monopoly, which was originally established with a view to the convenience of the inhabitants. The interests of the colony would be promoted by an abatement of the duty, and also of the monopoly price enjoyed by the Company, and which is enhanced at present by the charge of very expensive freight for the whole voyage from Canton to England. Some reciprocal benefit would result were the East-India Company to promote the trade in supplies with Saint Helena, and the export of wines to England and to their Indian possessions, in return for the value of their teas and other goods imported into the colony. As we shall advert more particularly to this subject in our report upon the trade of the colony, we shall here only add, that if the East-India Company are interested in the monopoly of the tea trade at the Cape, while their own possessions in the east are supplied by license, the colony is at least entitled to the reciprocal benefits we have proposed, and which should be made the condition of their retaining the exclusive

exclusive privilege, which may perhaps be important to them as long as they possess the general monopoly of the tea-trade, and which might be evaded through the medium of the Cape traders.

After giving the fullest consideration to the subject of the colonial duties now chargeable upon British and foreign goods imported, we are disposed to recommend to your Lordship a considerable reduction of them, and in particular upon foreign and eastern goods; a measure that we think would tend to an early increase in the trade of the colony, without prejudice to British manufactures, the taste for which is now generally established.

The increased consumption of the productive classes would be the consequence of the facilities afforded to the colonists for the disposal of their surplus produce, whether by exportation to Mauritius, or to other places, or in furnishing the supplies required by shipping in the prosecution of their voyages round the Cape, whether outward-bound from Europe or America, or in returning from the ports of Asia. From the effects of an increasing trade with the several parts of the colony, we should be induced to anticipate an eventual increase, rather than a diminution of the revenue, from a reduction of the colonial duties; and we accordingly recommend that three per cent. should in future be charged upon all goods imported in British vessels, whether registered in England or in India, if navigated by British seamen; and five per cent. upon all goods imported in foreign vessels, or in British vessels registered in India, but navigated by Lascars or European foreigners.

The Commissioners next proceed to explain the nature of the revenue derived from the banking establishments of the government, their origin, and the principles upon which they have been conducted; adding suggestions as to the means whereby they may be made more conducive to the interests of the public.

The transactions among the early settlers were conducted either by barter or by specie, until the year 1782, when the interruption of Dutch commerce led to the issue of paper currency, which subsequently increased to a great extent, and carried with it the principles of its own degradation, as soon as the commerce of the colony should be opened, and the quantity forced into circulation should exceed the demand for it as a medium of internal transactions. In 1793 the Lombard Bank was formed by the Batavian commissioners, in order to enable the colonists to obtain accommodations without resorting to private loans at a ruinous interest. The small capitals of individuals were with facility employed in this bank, and from this source, the Commissioners think, may have originated the extensive system of accommodation in all the public establishments wherein funds have accumulated, and the eagerness of individuals to obtain loans from such funds, at a moderate rate, for various objects. Sums were advanced to this bank in paper currency, amounting in the first year to 525,000 rix dollars, and in 1795 to 680,000. These funds were made applicable to "the relief of the inhabitants, by advances being made to them upon pledges of their personal property, and upon mortgages of their real property."

In 1796 a repayment of part of the sum advanced was made to the government, and in 1802 a further advance was made by the government to the bank of 165,000 rix dollars: the nominal capital of the bank was then 810,255 rix dollars. During the succeeding Batavian administration, a measure was adopted of calling in the paper currency, issued by the Dutch and British governments (the last of which had been duly accounted for), and a new paper currency was issued to the full amount; whereby the obligations contracted under successive loans were blended in one general recognition of the Batavian

vian government, but without any declaration of its engagement to redeem the debt, or to repay the notes at any fixed rate.*

After the capture of the colony in 1806 it became apparent that the resources of the bank had been diverted from the original object; and upon investigation it appeared that a practice had prevailed of affording accommodations to persons at a low rate of interest, who thereby were able to employ their own capital at a higher rate by loans to others. Much of the bank funds was absorbed in permanent loans, and additional loans had sometimes been obtained by parties on property already mortgaged to the bank.

To remedy these and other abuses, a committee of inquiry in 1807 recommended sundry expedients, amongst which was the recal of all loans for long periods, and they recommended that the residue of the capital (310,255 rix dollars) should be reissued to persons who had not previously derived benefit from loans, or were in want of support in agriculture. The paper currency in circulation at this period (January 1808) was upwards of two millions of rix dollars, which the committee considered to be fully adequate for all the purposes of commerce, and internal improvement. The government declined calling in the capital lent on mortgages, but provided for its gradual repayment; and in order to give early accommodation to the public, advanced 150,000 rix dollars to the bank to constitute a fund for loans at short periods.

In 1808, a discount bank was established, which received deposits from the receivers of the revenue and from individuals on interest, and it was authorized to discount from these resources, first the vendue rolls, and subsequently private bills and promissory notes. The remarks in this part of the report we subjoin :

Upon these measures we have generally to observe, that if it may have been inexpedient before the cession of the colony to make any considerable change in a system by which the government was exclusively engaged in transactions of the nature that we have described, and which had its origin in the circumstance of the colony having been established under the Dutch East-India Company, it was at all events of great importance to check the abuses which had obtained, and to restore or to reform the regulations that had been infringed or misapplied. As the object of the establishment of the loan bank has been the encouragement of trade and agriculture, both of which by the decline of the Dutch East-India Company had ceased to depend exclusively on its resources, it was an obvious departure from these views, as well as from the regulations of the bank, to perpetuate loans upon mortgage which were not directly employed in improving the resources of the colony, or in giving effect to industrious enterprise; and the usurious transactions complained of may be considered to have been extended by the improper application of the resources of the bank. The proposal, therefore, to revert to the system of lending for short periods to those who were engaged in agriculture, who had fixed property to offer as security, and who were not possessed of capital absorbed in loans on mortgage at high interest, was unquestionably sound and judicious; nor does it appear that the government was bound to consult the convenience of those who had for a series of years profited from the resources of government, through the facilities afforded by the bank, and who had lent their own capitals at

* The author of the "State of the Cape of Good Hope in 1822," (Col. Bird), relates a fact connected with this transaction, which does not appear in the report before us, but which, if correct, deserves to be officially promulgated. He says (p. 33) that, shortly after the capitulation of the colony, General Craig, the British Governor, found it absolutely necessary to create an addition to the paper currency of 250,000 rix dollars, and subsequently another to the extent of 80,000. "These two sums, making together 330,000 rix dollars, were accounted for, and honourably discharged, by the British Governor, on the evacuation of the Cape; but, in breach of faith, the Batavian government received the sum without cancelling paper rix dollars to a like amount."

at higher rates of interest than the bank demanded from them. To have required such persons to refund the advances by redeeming their own loans, and to have afforded accommodation for short periods to parties whose property was involved in private mortgages, was an obvious measure of justice and expediency.

The application of the funds thus redeemed, in forming a capital for a bank of discount, was also a measure that would not have been objectionable in the circumstances of the colony, being a means of providing those facilities to persons engaged in trade, which the short loans were calculated to afford to the agriculturists, and as it was also very desirable to arrest the transactions of the vendue department, in discounting their bills of sales at an exorbitant rate of interest.—The measure adopted by the government of augmenting the capital of the bank by advancing 150,000 rix dollars of colonial paper currency from the treasury, was intended to afford the required accommodation, and to obviate any sudden or peremptory demands upon the persons by whom the capital of the bank had been absorbed.—The subsequent measure of establishing the discount bank, without appropriating any part of these funds to the formation of a capital, involved the government in extended transactions of a nature that could be submitted to no efficient control, and although a source of considerable profit, exposed it to the risk of embarrassment in the event of the deposits on which it depended being suddenly withdrawn. The interest allowed on sums deposited for a year afforded the best security for the continuance of those deposits, by holding out an inducement to annuitants to place their funds in the bank, and to be content with a smaller income in consideration of the greater security afforded by a public establishment, and the punctual discharge of its engagements.

To relieve the distress prevailing in the colony for want of capital, an apparent deficiency in the means of the bank was alleged, and an addition was made of one million rix dollars to the paper currency already in circulation (2,171,082 rix dollars); 500,000 to be added to the capital of the loan bank (thereby raised to 1,485,255 rix dollars); 500,000 to constitute a separate fund for the execution of such public works as were deemed necessary.

It is just to observe, that an important measure of general improvement in Cape Town was connected with this issue of paper currency, by affording accommodation to the inhabitants, and thus enabling them to remove the thatched roofs from their dwelling-houses, which had exposed them to the danger of frequent accidents from fire, and to substitute flat roofs, bearing a thick course of plaister, which have equally tended to the security and the embellishment of the town.

In the year 1812 it was found that the whole amount of the public and private deposits in the bank was absorbed in discounts; and the operations of the bank had tended to afford facilities to the agriculturist as well as the merchant, whereby there was an appearance of prosperity in the colony, exhibited in the affluence of the inhabitants, their style of living, the increase and elegance of their buildings, &c. Various public works had also been carried into execution by means of the advances made to the bank, and applied to those objects. The sums originally advanced and subsequently re-issued, amount to 624,551 rix dollars, of which 315,719 rix dollars have been repaid on account of principal and interest; and by allowing the amount of interest that has been paid, and that has retarded the redemption of the principal to be carried to the credit of "capital repaid," a sum of 321,165 rix dollars is still due to the fund. The revenue derived by Government from both banks was, moreover, considerable.

Lord C. Somerset acceded to the government in 1814. In June of that year, his Lordship directed that the bank of discount should cease to pay interest on 673,000 rix dollars deposits, which were employed in discounts, anticipating that the public would still deposit their funds there for security.

"By

"By this arrangement," say the Commissioners, "the deduction occasioned by the payment of interest on annual deposits was added to the profits of the establishment, without affecting the amount of the deposits in subsequent years." The aggregate deposits on the discount bank at this period amounted to 1,268,543 rix dollars, whereof 1,044,797 were out on discounts of bills and bonds.

Subsequent to 1814, no material changes were made in the management of the banks. The Lombard bank was made the medium of issuing loans to individuals suffering temporary distress, and the transactions of the discount bank have been much extended.

The Commissioners think that it is demonstrated that annuitants prefer public security for their funds; they therefore consider it desirable that a public fund should be erected. The expedient which the Colonial Government resorted to, in order to meet the extreme avidity on the part of the colonists to absorb the disposable funds of any institution in loans, namely, that of augmenting from time to time, the capital of the bank by an addition of paper currency, without rendering it convertible, or regulating its value by any known standard, the Commissioners characterize as "questionable." The nominal value of the rix dollar at 4s. was adhered to, whilst in exchange on England it had depreciated to 1s. 6d.

The issues having been increased to 3,000,000 of rix dollars, on a general impression of the necessity of satisfying the demands of the community for available funds; it has been maintained that this sum was not in excess, with reference to the extent of the transactions of which this currency was alone the medium. On the other hand it was apparent, that the demands for remittance, and the competition for the purchase of bills of exchange, had operated to depreciate the paper in proportion to the premium that was paid by the merchants who redeemed it in the price of their goods; and although this depreciation was less apparent in the internal transactions of the colony, there could be no real distinction in the relative value of the currency in the internal and external transactions of the colony, as the products of the country were themselves disposable in the same markets with the goods imported, and at nominal prices, fluctuating with the value of the currency as determined by the premium upon bills of exchange.

The report states, as an admitted fact, that the transactions of the banks and the circulation of the paper currency, have not extended much beyond the Cape district; the transactions of the colonists in remoter districts are regulated either by barter, or by means of bills recoverable by *parata executio*. The commissioners subjoin the following remarks, in reference to the application for compensation by the colonists for the loss attending the alteration in the currency.

The accommodations afforded by the bank to individuals, and the loans of paper currency from the treasury, having been for the most part limited to Cape Town and its neighbourhood, any attempt to compensate the losses which had resulted from the extent of those issues would have been severely felt by the colonists in those parts of the colony which have been in a great degree excluded from participating in these accommodations, and in which very little commercial capital exists, while the merchants of Cape Town would have acquired an increase of value upon their deposits of paper currency, even in cases where a commercial profit had already been derived, and had amply compensated them for any losses from the depreciation. The funds deposited in the discount bank by the East-India Company's agent, may be adduced as a prominent illustration of this last remark, as a sum of 400,000 rix dollars had thus been accumulated from the profits of a trade in tea, retailed to the colonists at exorbitant monopoly prices.

That fixed property has declined in value must be attributed to other causes than the depreciation of the paper currency, the excessive issue of which might have been expected to raise the nominal prices estimated in rix dollars.

The Commissioners then proceed to specify the measures they consider necessary to prevent the further depreciation of the currency, and ruinous fluctuations of exchange. These measures are connected with the future establishment of the banks, which they are by no means of opinion it would be expedient, or even safe, to sanction upon their present footing. They admit that a material loss will be sustained from the repayment of the loans in a depreciated medium, by Government in common with individual capitalists, particularly mortgagees and annuitants, who are entitled to the first consideration in any arrangement to be adopted; for the depreciation in the real value of property, as was observed, must be attributed to other causes.

The Commissioners deem it inexpedient and impracticable wholly to suspend the operations of the loan and discount banks; and in considering the means of preserving to the public the benefits they are calculated to afford, without compromising the interests of Government, they are led to admit the principles upon which the Bengal bank was established in 1806. "The success that has attended that institution, under the regulations that were framed and incorporated in a charter, and the subsequent enlargement of its transactions, are at once a proof of the benefits that the Government and the public have derived from it." The plan of this bank appears to have comprehended the objects contemplated in the establishment of the loan and discount banks at the Cape, namely, granting loans for short periods on good security, and discounting bills of exchange. The Commissioners accordingly propose a plan, in the details of which they keep in view the regulations of the Bengal bank and those of the Lombard and discount banks at the Cape.

They recommend the issue of £100,000 in debentures bearing an interest of six per cent. in the colony, or four per cent. payable in England, at the option of the holder. They also recommend that a charter of incorporation be granted for a bank to be established at Cape Town, for a term of ten years, upon a capital to be subscribed of £100,000, to be divided into 500 shares of £200 each, whereof Government should take 200, one-half of the Government shares to be subscribed in debentures, the other half in British silver and copper money: the shares of individuals to be receivable in colonial paper currency, exchangeable immediately at the treasury for money and debentures, in equal proportions. The loans of the bank they propose should be repayable in six months, and bear six per cent. interest; the bank not to grant new loans when the cash in hand does not amount to one-third of outstanding claims; no loan to Government at any one time to exceed £10,000; to an individual £2,000. They suggest that the bank should be charged with the recovery of the long and short loans of the Lombard bank, and such as have been negotiated through the district boards. A variety of other arrangements are suggested to facilitate the circulation of British silver money in the colony by means of the bank, and the extinction of the paper notes. In aid of these objects, the Commissioners recommend the transmission from England of a metallic currency to the extent of £65,000, to be placed at the disposal of the Colonial Government, which should be empowered to draw £35,000 more to aid the redemption of the paper. They moreover urge that the claim of the British treasury of £35,097, advanced for the relief of the inhabitants of the colony, be cancelled, and considered a further payment towards the redemption of the paper currency, &c.

In order to extend the benefits of the institution to the eastern province of the colony, the Commissioners propose that a branch bank be established at the seat of government for that province. Besides the conveniences afforded to the inhabitants in their mutual transactions, the circulation of British metal currency by the eastern bank will, it is observed, facilitate the traffic with the Caffres and other tribes at the fairs now or hereafter established on the frontier.

The charges yet to be provided for in settling the account of the Colonial Government form the last subject treated of in this branch of the report. The balance of these accounts is £60,682, the liquidation of which by the British treasury would constitute a charge upon the colonial revenue.

In treating of the appropriation of the funds raised in the colony, the Commissioners have occasion to advert to the government-house at Newlands, the construction of which has been a ground of so much animadversion in consequence of the "disclosures" of Sir Rufane Donkin. In the present report, which is dated 6th Sept. 1826, the Commissioners say, "The government-house at Newlands has been so defectively constructed, that we apprehend the repairs of it will be a perpetual source of expense, even if it should not require at some future period to be nearly rebuilt." They also recommend the sale of the grounds, and the purchase of a country residence upon a less extensive scale. In a letter from the Commissioners to Lord C. Somerset, dated the 17th June 1825, which occurs in some other papers connected with the Cape,* those gentlemen say: "as a country residence for the governor of the colony, where he is accustomed to receive strangers of rank in the summer and autumn on their passage to distant stations, and frequently to entertain the civil and military officers of the establishment, we think that the house at Newlands barely contains the accommodation requisite for these purposes." Again, in the Report of the Commissioners, dated 24th December 1825,† upon the allegations of Sir Rufane Donkin, they express themselves as follows:

We believe that Sir Rufane Donkin was desirous of promoting the public economy, and that he paid attention, in some instances, to the means of abridging the expenditure upon government buildings; but we regret that his attention was not more particularly drawn to the *extensive works* that were commenced at Newlands about the end of the year 1819, and that during the years 1820 and 1821, in which he administered the government, he did not introduce a greater degree of regularity, and check the expenditure, which had already exceeded the sum that your Lordship had authorized to be disbursed. We do not introduce these remarks in order to excuse the existence of the same irregularities under the administration of Lord Charles Somerset, but as Sir Rufane Donkin has attributed to the lavish expenditure at Newlands the great expenses that were incurred by the Government in the year 1820, and which were reduced in the following year by the operation of "his system," we have considered it to be just to point out the degree of responsibility that he incurred for the execution of *so extensive* a work, and the disbursement of the public money to so considerable an amount.

We must confess there appears to us some slight inconsistency in these different statements: they are doubtless reconcilable, but it is to be regretted that, considering the circumstances under which this subject is brought before the public, their consistency was not more obvious.

* Parl. Papers, ordered to be printed 21st May 1827, p. 6.

† *Ibid.* p. 94.

TRAVELS OF ORIENTALS IN EUROPE.

WHEN an individual belonging to a remote nation in the East—for example, a Chinese, a Persian, or a Hindoo—visits Europe, he is an object of curiosity to all classes. The vulgar gaze at him with astonishment mixed with ridicule and disdain, because, forsooth, his complexion, his features, his dress, and his manners, are so different from their own. They who are more refined and philosophical, regard him with an equal degree of interest, but of another kind. They are eager to mark the effect produced upon his mind, especially if it be cultivated, by the novelties around him; to discern his first impressions before he has become tinged in the slightest degree with our prejudices, or acquired the habit of thinking as we think, and of viewing persons and things with reference to our maxims and standards. This desire of knowing the genuine opinions of a person thus untutored in regard to our arts and our habits, although it be termed “curiosity,” is of a more intellectual character than the term usually implies. A man is as little qualified to judge with impartiality of the system of manners and habits of the society in which he dwells, as he is fit to criticise his individual self. Our very minds are in some degree the creatures of habit; they become moulded according to a certain fashion; and we should be insensible to folly, absurdity, or evil, in our customs, were they not pointed out by persons who had not been nurtured amongst them, and who were not imbued with the peculiar sentiments or principles from which they deduced their origin.

If the observations of a European traveller belonging to a different nation from that wherein he journeys, be, for the reason just referred to, acceptable to the latter, *a fortiori*, the representations which an individual of a people without the sphere of European habits and prejudices furnishes to his fellow-countrymen of the peculiarities he may have personally remarked in Europe, must be highly attractive to Europeans. If a French book of travels in England, and, *vice versâ*, an English account of the manners of France, be capable of exciting the curiosity of the people described, how much greater degree of interest must a native of Europe feel in a portraiture of the manners of his nation, or even his continent, drawn by an Asiatic!

Another consideration, which enhances the value of such pictures, is their rarity: few authentic works of this kind have been known in Europe, and of the limited number which have appeared in an English dress, some, at least, labour under unjust suspicions of being spurious. This proneness to distrust, is probably owing in part to the existence of some instances of innocent deception (such as the *Citizen of the World* of Goldsmith), wherein the writer has availed himself of the very considerations herein assigned as legitimate grounds for the curiosity felt in Europe to read the travels of an Asiatic, for the purposes of moral satire.

It must not be inferred, however, from what has been said, that the strictures of an oriental traveller upon our manners will be always just or instructive; he is more liable than aliens less discriminated from us to become the victim of self-delusion, accidental mistakes, and the intentional deception of others. In most cases, those who write (from superficial observation especially) upon the manners of a foreign people, are guilty, in different degrees, of misrepresentation and caricature. No candid person would censure an Asiatic traveller for painting somewhat extravagantly English manners and customs, who has read or heard of the monstrous absurdities of Pillet; and whilst

whilst we smile at the ludicrous blunders which a native of Asia makes in his reports of Europe, we should bear in mind that those of European travellers may (and we know do) contain hallucinations of a similar kind in respect to the East.

Lieut. Alexander, whose travels in Ava and Persia we noticed in our last volume (p. 649), has lately been the medium of introducing to our notice the travels of a native of Bengal, Mirza Itesa Modcen, in Great Britain and France. The work is entitled in the original "Shigurf Namah i Velaët," or "Excellent Intelligence concerning Europe." The author tells us that he was born in Panchnôur, a small town in Bengal. During the reign of Nawab Jaffer Aleë Khan he was on terms of intimacy with some chief moonshees of his court, and thereby acquired a facility in the Persian or court language. He afterwards entered the service of Major Park, whom he attended in the field. After the conclusion of hostilities, he had the honour of an audience with Shah Alum, the Monarch of Delhi. When Lord Clive obtained from that prince the commission of dewani for the Company, the Shah (he says) begged that an English army might be kept near him, which Lord Clive declined, "without the orders of the King of England;" whereupon the Mogul prepared a letter to his Britannic Majesty, which was sent, with a present of a lac of rupees, by a British officer (whose name Mr. Alexander, from motives of delicacy, has suppressed) to England, and Itesa Modeen was selected to accompany him as Moonshce. He left Calcutta in the year 1765, on board a French ship, touched at the Mauritius and the Cape, arrived at the port of Nantz in France, and reached England by the way of Calais. He returned to Bengal in the year 1768.

The original, which is in manuscript and extremely scarce, was written in the Persian language. Mr. Alexander has translated it into Hindoostanee for the use of learners, and has given an English free version to gratify the curiosity of English readers.

We do not propose to criticise the work, but merely to collect a few of the amusing observations which the Mirza has made upon European manners, illustrative of our preliminary remarks: we shall even pass over the comments of the author upon certain important political transactions in India at the epoch of his history, respecting which he seems to have been very ill-informed.

At his first arrival in France, the Mirza was struck with surprise at the lower orders wearing wooden shoes, "in which they walked about in a ludicrous and whimsical manner." He was told, he says, by two of his English fellow travellers, that "these were very wretched people; but it was all owing to their own indolence, for they were not industrious like the English." Some of the French passengers, however, gave him a specimen of their active industry, by shewing their skill in smuggling: "the mates, a doctor, and a *clergyman*, who had brought some pieces of cloth from Bengal, concealed them, *like thieves*, in their pockets (when the custom-house officers came on board), tied them round their necks, or rolled them round their waists."

Better acquaintance with the French seems to have enabled our author to set off one piece of slander against another.

The French assert that the English are instructed by them in music and horsemanship, for the wealthy among the English send their sons and daughters to the schools in France; in consequence of which, say they, the English are now skilled in the arts and sciences. In former times they had neither the abilities nor the skill which they now possess, and were ignorant like the generality of Hindoostanees: however they allow

allow that they are brave soldiers. The lower classes of English (say they) do not go to foreign countries to serve or get employment; why? because they are a stupid race and slow at acquiring knowledge; therefore even if they did go to other countries, no person would employ them, consequently they would be reduced to misery for want of food and clothes. But the French caste are skilled in all the arts and sciences, and wherever they go they ingratiate themselves with strangers, and acquire dignity and honour.

Upon his arrival in England, he proceeded with his employer, Capt. S., to his residence in Covent Garden. The Mirza was soon pleased with London, and declares that he conferred equal pleasure upon the inhabitants of the city. "Truly," he adds, "I am unable to praise sufficiently the worth and virtues of Europeans, for they esteem a traveller or an inhabitant of a foreign country dearer to them than their own life." In the course of two or three months every one entered into friendship with him, and the *ladies of the bazar* (of Billingsgate?) addressed him smilingly with, "Come, my dear, and kiss me!" The sight of the park fills him with ecstasy. "On every side females with silver forms, resembling peacocks, walk about, and at every corner fairy-faced ravishers of hearts move with a thousand blandishments and coquetries; the plain of the earth becomes a paradise from their resplendent foreheads, and heaven (itself) hangs down its head for shame at seeing the beauty of the loves." In a fit of rapture he exclaims:

اگر فردوس بر رویه زمین است همین است
و همین است و همین است

If there's a heaven on the face of the earth,
It is here! it is here! it is here!

The translator has pointed out a passage from the author of *Lalla Rookh* which is exactly parallel:

And, oh! if there be an Elysium on earth,
It is this! it is this!

Is the coincidence accidental or otherwise?

The Mirza visited the theatre, and describes a play he saw represented there, which, from his account of it, would seem to be the "Beggars' Opera." He beheld, "near the bazar in the Haymarket," a tall and corpulent female, whose height exceeded four cubits; and speaks with delight of her "beautiful face and desirable figure:" he was, he says, "confounded with her loveliness and beauty."

The mode in which marriages are brought about in England (and Europe generally) he thus relates:

The consent of both the lady and gentleman is requisite. It is necessary that the man be good-looking, of an agreeable temper, wealthy, skilled in business, and that he have a livelihood. On the part of the lady, she must likewise be well-favoured, of a good disposition, have a portion either from her father or from a former husband, and be versed in some of the fine arts. If all these good qualities are centred in one individual, that person is a rarity; and if a man and woman of the above description join themselves in wedlock, it will be a fortunate circumstance. Some people, however, look only to wealth, and marry solely for it. If a lady happen to be both ugly and poor, then no man will connect himself with her; for Europe is the emporium of beauty, and women excelling in loveliness are very common; also wealthy and virtuous ones (abound): therefore it follows, that if a lady have neither beauty nor riches, no one inquires after her. On this account, there are thousands of old ladies who have never seen the face of man.

A very considerable portion of the volume is devoted to discussions upon
points

points of religion. The Mirza seems to have been very improperly harassed upon the subject of his faith and religious observances, to which (according to his own statement) he adhered with a scrupulous attention that nearly cost him his life. He condemns the worship of saints in Catholic countries (he was himself a Mohammedan), and after describing the nature of auricular confession and absolution, he declares that "this practice is *wholly derived from the Hindoos.*" The Brahmins, he says, pretend that by bathing in the Ganges all sins will be pardoned, and tell the deluded people, "if you are charitable to us, we will cause you to enter heaven." He adds:

To be brief, the priests of the castes of French and others, with their consummate hypocrisy, lead the people astray, and have amassed great wealth. If these people were to read the high Koran, and were to believe in Hussurut Muhumud Mustafa (on whom be the blessing and peace of God!), there would be no great alteration to make between their present rites and those of the religion of Islam. Hypocrisy would then form no part of their religion.

It may be worth while to subjoin Itesa Modeen's succinct account of the introduction of Christianity and Mohammedanism:

After the demise of Hussurut Eesa, for some time the khalifut and office of imaum devolved on his twelve apostles, and the New Testament, which is used by the caste of Nazarenes, was compiled by them. Then these men separating, went into foreign countries, and began to propagate the religion of Eesa and the laws which he enjoined. In these times, in the different sects of Christians there are slight shades of difference.

The root of the faith of this caste is, that Hussurut Eesa is acknowledged to be the Son of God, because the Virgin Mary bore him without having known man. However, a few of the English do not subscribe to this doctrine, because they think that the pure nature (of God) cannot be born of any one, neither from him can any be born.

Nearly seven hundred years after the time of Hussurut Eesa, the resplendent brightness of Muhumud (with whom be the blessing and peace of God!) enlightened this obscure world; and besides causing the adjustment of sublunary matters, the religion of Islam was disclosed.

The commandments laid down in the Testament are: that mankind is to consider the divinity as single; to believe in his word and in his prophets; not to bear false witness; to refrain from lying; not to commit adultery, nor to kill; and to treat the poor and neighbours as if they were brothers.

The following picture of the English character is flattering to us:

The caste of English avoid self-praise, and talking of their own exploits they consider disgraceful. If an officer who has greatly distinguished himself by his enterprize and courage in any victory, be asked the particulars of the engagement, he simply states the facts as they occurred. If another person greatly extols the conduct and valour of that officer (before him), he immediately casts his eyes on the soles of his feet, and remains silent, and from extreme bashfulness the perspiration distils from his face. The English in general, then, do not at all relish to be praised before their face; they are rather annoyed at it, and dislike it. They consider an egotist a coward, and sycophants and flatterers, liars. Under these circumstances, in their assemblies flattery is unusual.

Egotists and flatterers are despicable in the opinion of a man of sense and understanding. Flattery is certainly a very foolish practice: however, the sepoys and officers of Hindustan, and particularly of the city of Delhi, think that flattery and egotism add to their consequence; as, for instance, if a person by a thousand labours happen to kill a fox, he then goes about every where, and proclaims with a loud voice that he had slaughtered a tiger, and in a most valiant manner twists his moustaches, and swelling with pride, his vesture does not suffice. He accounts the deeds of others, when placed in comparison with his own bravery, as nothing; nay, even makes out Rustum to have been decrepit.

Of the system of education in England the author gives his countrymen the following account, in contrast with their own :

The people of wealth in England, commencing at the age of four years, keep their sons and daughters constantly employed in writing, reading, and acquiring knowledge ; they never permit them to be idle. If a man or woman be unacquainted with the musical art, be unable to dance or ride, he or she is accounted by people of substance as descended from a mean parentage, and taunts and reproaches are not spared. They then say, "such a one's parents have been poor, and being unable to pay the cost of " education, their children are therefore ignorant of every thing." 'Those ladies, particularly, who can neither dance nor sing, are considered in a very inferior light ; they will never get well married. To be brief, the manner in which the English are educated and reared is totally different from that India, for the sons of some of our great men and nobles are taught gratuitously. At school they acquire a thousand bad habits, when they are supposed to be attaining knowledge. However, all that is disregarded by our men of rank, and (gratuitous education) is not accounted disgraceful. In England, however, money is expended in the acquirement of wisdom.

School discipline in England he describes as follows :

I saw that the boys sit on a form in one line, and in this way studied their lessons. The teacher, with a leathern strap in his hand, heard the scholars repeat their tasks, commencing at one end and going down the whole line. When a boy committed a mistake in his reading, the teacher, without the least pity or remorse, struck him on the back with the strap to such a degree, that he wounded the limbs of these silver fawns and jessamine-legged youths. Although this appears to be cruelty, yet this saying is nevertheless true :

" The tyranny of the teacher is better than the father's love."

The Mirza's representations of many objects and customs in England are so accurate that, from this circumstance alone, they possess subordinate interest. The following is an example :

In England a person cannot escape the punishment for murder by paying a fine, as in Bengal, where the institutes of Imaum Aboo Muhumud and Imaum Huneefa are still followed, by which a murderer may escape if the relatives of the murdered man choose to allow him : if they do not, the criminal pays to Government a certain fine, and the judges pardon him. But in England the judges first maturely deliberate in a case of murder, and where a creation of God has been destroyed, the criminal is consigned to execution. For theft the law is not similar to that of Muhumud, who orders the hand to be cut off if a greater amount than eight annas has been stolen. In England, the person who plunders, using at the same time force and violence, subjects himself to be executed. The English say that the punishment of the thief is not to be abated according to the amount of property he may have abstracted, for when a person intends to steal he will take as much as he can get, and if he could have laid hold of more than he actually carried off, he would have taken that likewise.

We conclude our extracts from this part of the work, therefore, with the following :

After the English have made a sufficiency to maintain themselves comfortably, then during their whole life, even though it be extended to seventy or eighty years, they apply themselves night and day to add to their stock of knowledge, and never remain a minute idle. They are not like the people of this country, who repeat Hindee and Persian poems in praise of a mistress's face, or descriptive of the qualities of the wine, of the goblet, and of the cup-bearer, and who pretend to be in love.

The English are naturally good managers : they never throw away their money, and reckon it a very disgraceful thing to be in debt. The middle ranks of society place their money in the hands of a banker, and receive the interest of it monthly : the principal therefore remains untouched. They are such a calculating race, that it often happens

happens that a wealthy man has only one man servant to attend upon him, who shaves and dresses him; besides the footman he has a female cook and a chambermaid, and for the horses there is a single groom: the whole business of the house, then, is carried on by these servants. The master's time is occupied abroad, in making excursions and in hunting: his wife takes charge of all the accounts, superintends the household expenditure, and has the general management of every thing.

Many rich people who have families keep no carriage: when they require one they hire a bazar carriage. People of rank, and even princes, do not think themselves at all lowered by walking the distance of a quarter or half a coss in the streets and bazar, either during the day or night: taking a stick in their hand, they go abroad in plain clothes. They do not resemble, in this respect, the rajahs and wealthy men of this country, who are attended by nukcebs, chobdars, esawuls,* foot and horse, rockets and standards, mahé muratib,† and great pomp. Now the English consider the profusion, and the ceremony and state of the Indian retinues, as a most absurd and useless expenditure of money, and laugh at the people of this country for being such fools and blockheads. They say, if any one (in England) were to appear with a pompous retinue, the boys of the city and bazar would throw dirt upon his attendants, and would tauntingly clap their hands and throw stones.

Amongst mankind in general virtues and vices are always found: every nation considers some particular things sinful, or the contrary.

We subjoin an example of the impositions to which a traveller like Itesa Modeen is exposed to, in the account which he has given, in the description of his sea-voyage (doubtless from the absurd statement of some shipmate), of a mermaid.

The mermaid is a beautiful woman from the head to the waist, with two breasts, a mouth like a flower, black tresses, dark eyes, of a good stature, with eyebrows like a bow. On seeing her countenance the hearts of lovers are wounded, and those who are inexperienced in affairs of the heart are confined in the snare of her enticements. Beneath her waist half the limbs and lower parts resemble a fish with a forked tail. The effigy of this animal is placed on the stems and sterns of ships. These extraordinary beings are seen by mariners near dangerous parts of the ocean, and when they appear it is a bad omen. May God in his mercy prevent any one from seeing its countenance, for it is a kind of genii! When it sits upright in the water to the waist and shews its face, the sailors viewing its countenance lose their senses. It then calls on one of them by name. The individual called upon, on hearing its voice, becomes greatly agitated, and prepares to go upon hearing the call repeated: at the third summons he leaps into the sea, and is lost to the view of beholders. They say that if that person were to be bound with a chain of iron, even that could not detain him.

The narrative of Itesa Modeen, in English, is simple, and seldom adorned with oriental tropes and metaphors: the praise of this is chiefly due to the translator, who admits that, in the English version, he has not "tied himself down to a literal translation; far from it; he has merely given the author's meaning." One of the metaphors retained, although quaint, is elegant: upon leaving London, in low spirits, and visiting Oxford, the sight of that noble city so exhilarated him, that, he says, "the bird of joy constructed its nest on the branch of my heart."

* Officers of parade.

† An honorary badge, being the figure of a fish.

NEW FACTS CONCERNING THE HISTORY OF WRITING AMONGST THE ARABS OF THE HEDJAZ.

BY BARON SILVESTRE DE SACY.*

“Although the memory of the origin of nations, of their primitive institutions, of the confined circle of their laws, religious and civil—in short, of whatsoever constitutes their early social and political existence—confided at first to poetry and consecrated by religion, must incontestably have been transmitted from father to son during an indefinite number of generations, by means of tradition purely oral, without the aid of writing; the birth of literature, properly so called, cannot be traced amongst any people to a period more remote than that of this divine art, which is alone the faithful depositary of the works of genius. This art, in transmitting them from age to age, deposits the prolific germ of the early productions of the human mind in succeeding ages; which preserves, cherishes, and feeds the sacred fire, converting its feeble sparks into a vast and genial flame, which communicates itself to a great nation. The epoch of the invention of writing, or of its introduction amongst a people, may therefore be regarded as a period anterior to its literature, and ought to be the first object of those investigations in which I am about to engage.”

It was thus I expressed myself more than forty years ago, when I submitted to the Royal Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres my researches into the origin and ancient relics of the literature of the Arabs, which was more recently printed in the collection of its memoirs. In this work, of considerable extent, I embraced the history of the art of writing in all parts of the Peninsula inhabited from time immemorial by the Arabs, and I endeavoured to diffuse some light upon the ancient writing of the Homerites or Himyarites, of which not a single vestige is known to remain, but the existence of which, long before the establishment of Islamism, cannot be called into question. Passing then into the country in which this religion had its birth, and has consecrated, in adopting, ancient superstitions and religious rites which had for their object, for a long series of ages back, the temple whose foundation was attributed to Abraham; I demonstrated, by every species of proof, that writing was introduced into the Hedjaz, amongst the Pagan Arabs and the illustrious family of Koreish, but a very few years before the birth of Mahomet; and that it was imported thither from Mesopotamia, where the Syrians had propagated it amongst the Arab tribes who had, partly at least, embraced the Christian religion;—a religion so often malevolently reproached with favouring ignorance, but which, as history testifies, has always carried with it the art of writing and a taste for study. But in advancing the statement, that writing was an art so very recent amongst the Arabs of the Hedjaz at the birth of the founder of Islamism, and a fruit of their intercourse with strangers, I pointed out, by divers facts which have descended to our knowledge, that this art soon spread itself amongst them, and that writing had become already in very common use at Mecca, when Mahomet began to promulgate his new doctrines. “If any one could doubt this,” I observed, “no other proof is necessary than the anathema written by the Koreishites against Mahomet (of which the worms spared only the name of God, having eaten all the rest); the treaty between Mahomet and the Koreishites, which was committed to writing in the sixth year of the Hegira, by Ali, and which gave rise to such a bitter quarrel
between

* Read at the annual general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Paris, 30th April 1827.—See p. 63.

between the contracting parties; finally, the letters addressed by Mahomet to several princes, in the interior, as well as beyond Arabia, inviting them to embrace his religion. "Further evidence of this fact," I added, "may be found in the statements of historians respecting the compilation and correction of the Koran under Abu-Bek'r and Othman, and in a multitude of other facts, but especially in the narrative of the conversion of Omar; whence it evidently resulted that the different portions of the Koran were committed to writing even in the life-time of Mahomet." I should subjoin to these proofs the tradition which informs us that it was customary to write in letters of gold, and suspend to the gates of the Caaba, those poems which had obtained the suffrages of the tribes assembled at the great mart of Occadh. Such of these poems as have reached us, are either contemporary with Mahomet, or of a date but little earlier than that of this legislator.

In thus fixing, however, upon the sixth century of the Christian era as the epoch of the introduction into the Hedjaz of the art of writing, we must conclude that the art was earlier in use amongst the Arabs of the kingdoms of Hira and Gazna, the former connected by intimate relations with the empire of the Chosroes, and the latter with the provinces of the Greek empire in the East; as well as amongst the nomade tribes of Mesopotamia, and even amongst the inhabitants of the countries in the north and centre of Arabia. How, otherwise, could we account for the high degree of cultivation which Arabic poetry had attained amongst all these tribes, and the rigorous observance of rules of grammar and prosodial laws of an elaborate and artificial character, which is remarkable in the specimens which have reached us of the productions of genius at that remote period? The style of the Koran departs occasionally from the rules sanctioned by the grammarians, and discovers anomalies which, thanks to the veneration paid to this book, have been suffered to escape untouched through centuries, and have been religiously preserved; but no such reproaches can be alleged against the poems of Amrialkai, Tarafa, Labed, and their contemporaries.

But not to prolong this digression, and reverting to the history of writing; it is not sufficient to ascertain pretty nearly the period when it was spread amongst the countrymen of Mahomet, and when, employed as the depository of his doctrine and pretended revelations, it was about to become, in conjunction with the conqueror's sabre, the terror of all the nations amongst whom the fierce companions of the prophet carried the standard of Islam; it is natural to inquire whether this writing was the same as that which is now used by the descendants of those Arabs, and by the nations who, in adopting their religion, have also borrowed their writing, and whose literature is, in a great measure, modelled after theirs. There exist two means of solving this question, namely, written traditions and monuments.

Until of late years, it was admitted by common consent amongst those scholars who had dedicated any portion of their studies to this species of investigation, that the character commonly employed at the present day by the nations of Asia who speak Arabic, owed its actual forms to Ebn Mokla, vizir of the Abasside Caliphs Moktader and Caher, and who is more celebrated by this invention, of which history has given him the honour, than by the political transactions in which he figured, and the reverses of fortune of which he was the victim; that prior to his time, that is, before the close of the third century of the Hegira, the character in general use was that denominated *Cufic*, from the name of the city of Cufa whence it originated; and that this character is that which has been preserved in the ancient MSS. of the Koran,

upon the Musulman coins of Abd-ul Malck struck for the first time in the year of the Hegira 75, and upon those of his successors. It was acknowledged also, that the diacritical points, which serve to distinguish certain letters, in other respects alike, and the vowel-points, so called because they supply the absence of vowels, were unknown to antiquity, and were not invented till towards the end of the first century of the Hegira; lastly, it was known that the Arabic character had undergone variations and mutations, greater or less, in several of the countries subjected by the Musulmans, such as Persia, India, Africa, and Spain, and the African writing seemed to have retained more analogy with the ancient Cufic, than that, the invention of which was attributed to Ebn Mokla.

It was felt, however, that the name of Cufic, given to the Arabic character supposed to have originated in Mesopotamia, and to have been introduced into the Hedjaz at a period somewhat more distant than that of Mahomet, presented a sort of absurdity or anachronism which required some explanation. The city of Cufa having been founded only in the caliphate of Omar, how could it happen that it gave its name to a species of writing which had been in use amongst the Arabs of the Hedjaz for half a century before? Pococke and other scholars, having raised this difficulty, suggested various reasons for the solution of it, more or less plausible, but none of them, it must be admitted, calculated to carry conviction to the mind. I was the first to remark, in the work I referred to at the commencement, that Hajji Khalfa, a celebrated Turkish bibliographer, appeared not to be favourable to this high antiquity attributed to the Cufic character; that, following the order in which he arranges the various species of Arabic writing he specifies, after a learned writer of the fourth century of the Hegira, the character of Cufa was but the fourth, three others being reckoned before it, thus arranged chronologically: that of Mecca, that of Medina, and then that of Basra (Bussorah). This order is justified by facts; for writing was used at Mecca long before Basra was founded, a city which was anterior by a few years only to Cufa; and it is, moreover, extremely probable that Medina received the art of writing from Mecca: in fact this city, which, before it offered an asylum to Mahomet, was named Yathreb, doubtless bore the name of the "City of the Prophet" (*Medinet-al-nabi*), when it communicated to a kind of writing the denomination *Medinese*.

Later still, some medals anterior to the coins, properly called Musulman, of Abd-ul Malck, and on which there appeared the name of this identical caliph, or the names of certain towns of Syria, such as Damascus and Emesa, occurred to shake the opinion which attributed to the Cufic character a priority over all other Arabic writings. To these might have been added a vase from the cabinet of the Chevalier Nani, published more than thirty years ago, the legend of which was not in the Cufic character, but which belonged undoubtedly to a minister of Finance in Egypt at the beginning of the second century of the Hegira: but no attention was paid to this circumstance, which would have been sufficient to excite a suspicion that the character, the invention of which was attributed to Ebn Mokla, was, at least in the essentials of its forms, anterior to Cufic writing. It is not rare that the mind, once strongly possessed with an opinion in philosophy or politics, is inaccessible to objections which should lead it by doubt towards truth; and such occurrences sometimes happen in matters of criticism and history.

Such was the state of our information in regard to the history of writing amongst the Arabs, when an unexpected discovery, two years ago, let in
new

new light upon this subject.* Certain papyri, written in Arabic, had been found in the neighbourhood of Memphis, enclosed in a vase, which was buried in the earth. Two of these papyri contained passports granted to some Egyptians inhabiting the village of Deir-Abi-Hermes, in the canton of Memphis, whereby they were permitted to travel in Upper Egypt for a month. These passports describe, moreover, the individuals who had obtained them; they each bear the name of the chief or governor of the canton of Memphis by whom they had been granted; that of the governor-general of Egypt, of whom the former was but the deputy; and lastly the name of the register who had written them. Their date was the year 133 of the Hegira, which is supported by the testimony of history, whence we know that the governor-general of Egypt at this period was Abd-ul Malek, son of Yezid, the very same person who is named in this capacity in the two passports. Now the character in which these documents, anterior by two centuries to Ebn Mokla, are written, is not the Cufic, but a kind of writing which, bating a little stiffness, is that which is in common use at the present day, and which it was fancied came into existence only at the end of the third century of the Hegira. These two writings were sealed with a small seal, the legend of which is in the Cufic character. I hastened to communicate this discovery to the Royal Academy of Inscriptions and Belles-Lettres; I caused the two passports to be lithographed, and I published them, with the article of which they were the subject, in the *Journal des Savans* (for August 1825). I did not fail to make it apparent how much this discovery confirmed the authenticity of the medals of the caliph Abd-ul Malek, anterior to those which bear a type purely Musulman, and the legends of which are in the Cufic character; and to show that it banished all the difficulties which had been raised against the Greek coins of Heraclius, on which was read, in Greek as well as Arabic, the name of the city of Tiberias. "Perhaps," I observed, in the conclusion of the article, "it ought to reform altogether our ideas respecting the chronology of the different modes of Arabic writing, and prove that the *Neskhi* character, the invention of which has been assigned to the close of the third century of the Hegira, existed nearly in its present form, before the Arabs of the Hedjaz received, from Anbar or Ilira, that which gave birth to the Cufic character. Let us not, however," I added, "be in a hurry to adopt this conjecture; let us begin merely to doubt, in order that we may oppose no prejudices to the new discoveries which happy accidents may present to us, such as that to which we owe the papyri which have been the subject of this memoir."

The hopes which I thus ventured to express, are about to be realized. Since a fortunate discovery, the fruit of the persevering labour of several years, and of a multitude of combinations and explorations directed by wonderful sagacity, has raised, or rather destroyed for ever, a part of the veil which covered the mysterious writing of ancient Egypt; since the monuments of this country, the primitive source of civilization, are no longer the objects of barren admiration or blind enthusiasm, and are restored to history and chronology, a new interest has attached itself to the smallest wrecks covered by the earth which conceals the tombs of the ancient empire of the Pharaohs; and sovereigns are now striving to emulate each other in encouraging and multiplying researches which may enrich Europe with the spoils of a nation, to whom Greece herself owed a portion of that knowledge which she poured forth upon the other parts of the west. Amongst these monuments of antique

Egypt,

* See *Asiat. Journ.*, vol. xx. p. 332.

Egypt, intermixed with those of Egypt under the successors of Alexander and the Roman domination, there have been found further papyri written in Arabic, relics of a modern civilization, if we compare them with those of Sesostriis or even the Ptolemys, but which we may be allowed to call antique, when, abstracted from all foreign comparisons, we consider them by themselves, and with relation to the people to whom they belong, and to whose cradle they touch the nearest.

The collection * of Egyptian monuments made by Mr. Salt, and purchased by his Majesty (of France), has furnished me with two new papyri written in the Arabic tongue: they have suffered much more from time, and from their long imprisonment in the earth, than the two of which I have before spoken: it is probable that they were discovered at the same time and in the same spot; for one of these, like the two for which I am indebted to the kindness of M. Drovetti, is a leave of absence for a month from the place called Deir-Abi-Hermes, in the canton of Memphis, for a journey to Fostat, or, as travellers call it, Old Cairo. It contains a description of the individual to whom it was granted; and we thence learn that he had a beard partly grey and partly black, hair more grey than black; that he was fair, with freckles upon his face. This writing, like the two passports, is of the year 133, but anterior to them by about seven months. It is given, like those, for a month only, and is written by the same scribe, named Ibrahim. The Governor-general of Egypt, in whose name it was granted, is also Abd-ul Malek, son of Yezid; but the nome, or canton, of Memphis was then administered, under the authority of Abd-ul Malek, by two functionaries, whose names have no affinity to that of the minister who granted the two passports. This writing confirms all we learned from those documents, but it affords no new light. We shall therefore make, in regard to it, but a single observation, which is not devoid of interest; namely, that history informs us that, towards the close of the first century of the Hegira, the receipt of the public tribute in Egypt and the administration of the finances were confided to a comptroller-general named Osama, son of Zaid, who rendered himself odious to all the inhabitants by his exactions and vexations. Among other expedients which he employed to increase his treasury, he devised a plan of requiring that all those who wished to pass and repass should pray a permission in writing, to the granting of which he doubtless attached a fee; and condemned in a penalty of ten pieces of gold every person who quitted the place of his residence without being provided with a passport. The death of the caliph, from whom he held his appointment, appeared to the Egyptians an effect of the divine vengeance, which their prayers had called down upon the prince in whose name Osama oppressed them. His successor deprived him of office, and ordered him to be brought before him bound hand and foot: but he died before he reached Damascus. Thus the oppressor was punished, but the fiscal measures which his evil genius had devised, continued doubtless in use, as these papyri prove: this is pretty nearly the history of fiscal operations every where.

If this papyrus affords but slender interest, it is not the case with the second: unfortunately this is torn in halves, no doubt from an observance of the ordinary custom amongst the Arabs employed in searching for antiquities in Egypt, of dividing the booty which is the produce of their joint labours. The three first lines of the lower part are so much damaged, that only a very small

* The succeeding part of the paper is an extract from a memoir read to the Royal Academy of Sciences and Belles-Lettres, the 30th March 1827.

small number of words can be perceived, and which are insufficient to make out the sense; this is the more to be regretted, because these lines should contain the very object of the letter: for this papyrus is undoubtedly a letter. The following is the translation of that part which can be read with absolute certainty, or with a probability which approximates very near to certainty:

Upper fragment. "In the name of God gracious and merciful. To Osama, son of Zaid; on the part of Abd-allah, son of Amru; of Alaschath, son of Noman; and of Mehdi, son of Noman. Peace be upon thee, O Abu-Mohammed!" [Here occurs the *hiatus*].

Lower fragment. "We beg of God to preserve thee in good health, and to procure happiness by thy ministry. Peace be upon thee and mercy from God. Written by Mehdi, the — of the month Rabi the first, of the year 40."

Upon the back of this papyrus, which had formerly been written in Greek, and on which some traces of this ancient writing are still visible, appears in Arabic:

"To Osama, son of Zaid, on the part of Abd-allah, son of Amru; of Alaschath, son of Noman; and of Mehdi, son of Noman."

As the Arabic writing of this papyrus, as well as that of the other three, is entirely destitute of diacritical points, there is necessarily some uncertainty as to the proper names; but these doubts can only extend to the name which I pronounce *Alaschath*, but which may also be read *Alaschab*; and to that of the father of Alaschath or Alaschab, and of Mehdi, which I read *Noman*. The names of Osama, son of Zaid, and of Abd-allah, son of Amru, leave room for no doubt whatsoever; and these are the only names, as will presently appear, of any importance.

It must speedily be perceived of what interest the date of this papyrus is in respect to the history of writing amongst the Musulmans. My first care ought therefore to be, to establish the fact that, although the line which contains this date be almost entirely effaced, there is nothing arbitrary and hazardous in the manner in which I restore it. In fact, there can be distinctly seen, 1st, the preposition *في*, or *in*; 2dly, the *ain*, or final letter of the word *rabi*, so that the name of the month is placed beyond doubt; 3dly, the heads of the two *alifs* and of the two *lams* of the word *alawel* (first), whence it results that of the two months named Rabi, there can be no doubt here that it is the first; 4thly, the head of the *alif*, which begins the word *arbaïn* (forty) and the *nun* which terminates it. The latter letter, it is true, is common to all the names of tens, from twenty to ninety; but of all these names, that of *forty* is the only one which begins with an *alif*; the only one consequently which can be read here. Lastly, there is nothing more after the word *arbaïn*, although there still remains a small blank space at the end of the line. Thus the date is complete, and it cannot be supposed that after the word *forty* there ought to be "*and a hundred*," according to the custom of the Arabs, of placing in dates the hundreds after the tens.

I might content myself with having thus justified the restitution of this date, and I should have no fear of being discredited by any person capable of verifying my assertion; but I proceed to the superfluous proof, that of the four personages named in this letter, two, namely Osama, son of Zaid, and Abd-allah, son of Amru, are well known to history; that they both lived, and played a very important part amongst the Musulmans, in the year 40 of the Hegira; and that no circumstance is opposed to the supposition of this letter being actually written in Egypt by Abd-allah, son of Amru, to
Osama,

Osama, son of Zaid. But I should, in the very first place, observe that the personage here referred to under the name of *Osama, son of Zaid*, is not the same as his homonyme, of whom I have before spoken, and who was, towards the end of the first century of the Hegira, comptroller general of the finances in Egypt.

I must suppress, in order not to abuse the patience of the meeting, an exact quotation of all the numerous authorities which have afforded me detailed facts regarding Osama and Abd-allah; and I shall confine myself to stating the results. Some one may possibly be astonished that history should have preserved, in regard to these early Musulmans, particulars which may appear minute and unimportant: but this would be to entertain a false idea. A very considerable part of the Musulman law has no other foundation than an immense collection of traditions, which have preserved the memory of the slightest actions and expressions of the founder of Islamism, and which supply the silence of the Koran. Now, the authority of these traditions depends upon the name of those who have transmitted them to posterity from mouth to mouth, up to the period when they were committed to writing, and especially of the reports in which the early authors of these traditions are concerned; either Mahomet himself, or his companions and contemporaries. It behoved the Musulmans, therefore, to attach great importance to whatever related to these reports, and to preserve the recollection of them with as much care as the traditions themselves; and this has been so scrupulously attended to, that the same fact has been repeated several times, when some slight difference appeared in the narratives which were to be traced to different contemporary witnesses.

After this preliminary remark, I proceed immediately to the facts which concern Osama, son of Zaid.

Zaid, his father, son of Haritha, made prisoner in a war between different Arab tribes, had been purchased for 400 pieces of silver, at the fair of Occadh, for Khadijah, before she married Mahomet: the latter, when he became the husband of Khadijah, asked Zaid of her, obtained him, enfranchised him, and gave him in marriage a female slave named Baraca, and surnamed Omm-Aimen, whom he had acquired in the division of his mother's property, and to whom he in like manner gave her liberty. Zaid had by Omm-Aimen a son named Osama: he is the very person in question. Mahomet entertained the greatest regard for Zaid; he even adopted him, in naming him *Zaid, son of Mohammed*, until the period when it was ordained that adopted children should no longer be called by the name of the person who adopted them. Zaid received from Mahomet, in the eighth year of the Hegira, the command of a part of the Musulman army at the battle of Muta, where he perished, being then only fifty-five years of age.

Osama, son of Zaid, was not less beloved by Mahomet than his father; he was commonly called "the dear friend, son of the dear friend, of the prophet." He was one of those who accompanied Mahomet in his flight from Mecca to Medina, and he adhered firmly to him at the battle of Honain, when the Musulman army was completely routed. The prophet, a few years before his death, sent him the ensign of command, and ordered him to assemble the Musulman troops to march into Syria. Osama was then only eighteen years of age, and he beheld under his command Omar, Abu-Bek'r, and the chief personages of Islamism. Mahomet, in ill health, urgently pressed the departure of the expedition; but death shortened his days, and Osama, who had not yet quitted Mecca, was one of those who bathed the corpse of the prophet.

phet. The death of Mahomet and the choice of his successor were the occasion of violent disputes amongst the Musulmans; four notable personages alone remained strangers to these disorders; amongst this number was Osama. The choice which Mahomet made of him to command the Syrian expedition had excited jealousy, and given rise to intrigues which disturbed the last moments of the prophet. Abu-Bek'r, however, nominated Mahomet's successor, preserved, in spite of the jealousy of Omar, the command to Osama, and lavished upon him the most distinguished marks of his regard and confidence. Omar, on his succession to the caliphate, treated him with no less distinction; and when he assigned a distribution from the public treasury amongst the chiefs of the army, he gave Osama a larger share than to his own son Abd-allah, and justified this preference, at which Abd-allah took offence, on the ground of the affection of Mahomet towards Zaid and his son Osama. After the murder of Othman, and the election of Ali, Osama was one of those who refused to take the oath to Ali, and he embraced the cause of Moawiyah. I have discovered nothing more of Osama, except that he died at Medina, or near that city, and was buried there towards the end of the reign of Moawiyah, or more precisely in the year 54. Writers do not perfectly agree respecting the prenomens which he bore, but the most general opinion is, that it was *Abu-Mohammed*, that is "father of Mohammed;" and in fact, he left behind several sons, the eldest of whom was called Mohammed. This fact is of great importance, because, in our letter, the writers, calling him by his prenomens when they address him, conformably to the custom of the Arabs, say: "Peace be upon thee, O Abu-Mohammed!"

Let us now pass from Osama, son of Zaid, to Abd-allah, son of Amru.

Amru, father of Abd-allah, was the son of As. This was he who conquered Egypt under Omar, and who was appointed governor thereof by this caliph; but when the Said, or Upper Egypt, had been subjected by the Arabs, Omar confided the command of it to Abd-allah, son of Saad. Othman having succeeded Omar, Amru applied to him to remove Abd-allah, and to unite all Egypt under his authority. Success did not answer his expectation: Othman removed him, and gave the government of all Egypt to his rival. Amru, reduced to the rank of a private individual, took up his residence at Mecca, and kept aloof from business, until the period when the Arabs were divided between Ali and Moawiyah. His ambition was then re-awakened; and, convinced that Moawiyah would recompense his services better than Ali, he went to the former with his two sons Mohammed and Abd-allah. Being charged by Moawiyah with the subjection of Egypt to his authority, he entered it at the head of an army in the thirty-eighth year of the Hegira, and, favoured by the partizans of Othman (enemies of Ali), who were numerous and powerful in the province, he had no difficulty in making himself master of it. He sullied his victory by his cruelty towards Mohammed, son of Abu Bek'r, who commanded there in the name of Ali. Amru had scarcely put the affairs of the province into order before he quitted it, leaving his son Abd-allah vice-governor in his absence. Amru went in search of Moawiyah, and had nearly quarrelled with him because he wished to join the government of Syria to that of Egypt. Upon the compromise between the partizans of Moawiyah and Ali, and the nomination of arbitrators to determine the respective pretensions of these two princes, Amru was chosen as arbitrator by Moawiyah: it is well known by what artifice he deceived the simplicity of the arbitrator nominated by Ali, and contrived that Moawiyah's cause should triumph. Returning to Egypt, of which Moawiyah relinquished to him all the revenues on the sole condition of discharging

charging the expenses of administration, he escaped, by a fortuitous circumstance, the dagger of the assassins who had conspired to kill, on the same day, Ali, Moawiyah, and Amru. He undertook, afterwards, by his lieutenants, various expeditions into Africa; and died, tormented by remorse of conscience, in the capital of Egypt, in the year 43, on the very day in which the ceremony of the end of the fast is celebrated.

Abd-allah, his son, was but twelve years younger than his father. He had embraced Islamism before him, and they were both, in the year 37, at the battle of Siffein. Before Amru decided upon joining Moawiyah, Abd-allah advised him to declare for Ali; he nevertheless attached himself to the fortunes of his father, and accompanied him to Moawiyah in Syria. His wife was a cousin of Mahomet. Under the reign of Othman he governed Egypt in the absence of his father, and according to the majority of historians, Amru, when viceroy of Egypt for the second time in the reign of Moawiyah, named him again his lieutenant. The fact is besides put beyond a doubt by the concurrent statement of the historians, that his father having died in the year 43, the very day of the celebration of the end of the fast, he proceeded early in the morning to his funeral, and pronounced afterwards, at the head of the assembly of the faithful, the prayer peculiar to this solemnity; an office which belongs to him who enjoys the dignity and rights of governor. It appears, also, that Moawiyah nominated him governor in succession to his father, but soon after appointed another to succeed him. Abd-allah, son of Amru, died, according to the most common opinion, at Misr, in the year 65, and was buried in his own dwelling there. Some historians say he died at Mecca.

From these facts it plainly results, that Abd-allah, son of Amru, resided in Egypt from the year 38 till the year 43; he was therefore there in the year 40, the period at which the letter in question was written.

I forbear several other remarks which occur in support of the proofs I have stated. It is true, I furnish no evidence to shew that Osama was employed by Moawiyah, in the year 40, in Egypt, or in the neighbourhood of that province; but nothing forbids the supposition. Besides, the letter which is addressed to him was perhaps to have been forwarded to him in Syria, and might not have reached him. It is enough for me to have shown, that at the date of the letter, Osama, son of Zaid, and Abd-allah, son of Amru, really existed, and were of the same political party; and that Abd-allah was in Egypt, where this letter must have been written, as no person can doubt. We have then, incontestably in this letter, a relic of writing amongst the Arabs of the year 40 of the Hegira, and according to all appearance, anterior to the Cufic character. The consequences deducible from this fact, and many others, have suggested to me some conjectures regarding the history of Arabic writing in the different countries subject to the Musulmans; but time does not allow of my developing them.*

* The reader will doubtless admire the satisfactory mode in which the demonstration in this paper is conducted, as well as the great philological skill and comprehensive reading of the writer.—*Ed.*

MEMOIR OF JAMES CUMMING, ESQ., F.S.A., F.R.S.L.

THE singular influence which Mr. Cumming's attainments and abilities are known to have exercised over the councils of the India Board, during the whole period of his superintendence of the revenue and judicial departments of that office, will have led many of our readers to expect in these pages some memoir of an individual who had, for above twenty years, been unceasingly engaged in anxious endeavours to render the internal administration of India a matter of greater concern to the British cabinet.

To the late Mr. Cumming alone belongs the merit (a high merit indeed it is) of having been the first person who called the attention of the Board of Commissioners to the practical operation of the existing systems of revenue and judicial administration in India; in other words, to the consideration of the question, whether or no the rights, properties, and persons of our Indian subjects were respected, maintained, and protected, under the Company's governments.

In the year 1812, Mr. Cumming had the distinction of being selected by a Committee of the House of Commons to prepare that part of the Fifth Report on India Affairs, which relates to the provinces under the Madras presidency. In the printed votes of the House, dated 27th July 1814, his performance of the duty on this occasion devolved to him, stands thus recorded :

“ Resolved, that an humble address be presented to His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, that he will be graciously pleased to order the payment of five hundred pounds to James Cumming, Esq., for his able services to the Select Committees appointed to inquire into and report upon the affairs of the East-India Company.”

Perhaps the most flattering encomia passed upon Mr. Cumming were those in the House of Commons, on the occasion of Mr. Creevey's motion, March 15, 1822, for a committee of inquiry into the duties of the Board of Control. Mr. Courtenay, the secretary, in replying to Mr. Creevey, expressed himself thus :

He could not come to this matter (the revenue and judicial affairs of India) without pausing to pay a tribute to the great merit of an individual; he should be the most unjust and ungrateful of men, if he were to pass on without expressing his sense of obligation due to a gentleman known to members of that house; he meant Mr. Cumming (*hear, hear!*); who, under the arrangement of 1807, was appointed to the head of the Revenue and Judicial Departments. To him, by his extraordinary labours and intelligence, belonged the sole merit of having been the first person who called the attention of the Board to the practical operation of the existing systems in those great departments of the Indian governments. The course now pursued, in regard to the revenue and judicial business of the office, was that every thing which came up from the India House in these departments went through the examination of the very meritorious individual he had named.

Mr. Canning, upon that occasion, concurred in the praise of “ the eminent individual so pointedly alluded to by his honourable friend.”

Nor were the higher functionaries of the India Board, under whom Mr. Cumming acted, backward in encouraging the zeal and ability to which homage had thus been paid extra-officially. Mr. Cumming's merits were at several periods acknowledged in terms of the highest praise, by the several statesmen who successively presided or sat as Commissioners at the Board of Control. On his retirement from office, testimonies of a very unusual kind and most flattering to his eminent services were entered on the records of the

office; nor can the honourable distinction of Mr. Cumming be considered as settled on a doubtful foundation, when it is known to be supported by the suffrages of such authorities as Lord Teignmouth, Right Hon. J. Sullivan, Right Hon. Geo. Canning, Sir Thos. Munro, J. G. Ravenshaw, Esq., and W. Thackeray, Esq.

That the sense entertained by Government of his deserts might be more substantially manifested, a pension of £200 a-year, over and above the amount of income to which Mr. Cumming was entitled by act of parliament, was settled by a treasury warrant on his sister; and the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East-India Company* for the time being, with a liberality and public-spiritedness which can scarcely be too much praised, were not satisfied to leave Mr. Cumming's services to the cognizance and remuneration of those only under whom he had acted, but throwing at once out of view the circumstance of his not having been on their establishment, resolved to pay a tribute themselves to the character of an individual, whose merits they were pleased to consider so distinguished as to justify them, on his retirement from office, in conferring upon him a pension of £200 a-year for life.

Mr. Cumming's habits were of a literary nature. During the last fifteen years of his life his whole time was occupied in attending to his official duties; before that period, from an early age, he was constantly engaged, when leisure permitted, in pursuits connected with literature.

The path of theology was decidedly the one in which, from inclination as well as talent, he was formed to shine. At the age of fifteen he wrote several sermons; in the *True Briton* of 1794 there appeared many of his communications on political subjects; and, at the time of his death, he was engaged in preparing a modern edition of the admirable works of Bishop Henshaw. He had some years before edited the "Resolves, Divine, Moral, and Political, of Owen Feltham."

It is difficult to do justice to the private character of Mr. Cumming. To say that he had the power to conciliate the respect and regard of all who were in the habits of familiar intercourse with him, would be to attribute no more to him than might, with a little colouring, be said of many sensible and estimable persons of upright and regular conduct, united to kind and courteous manners: the source of his influence over others lay far deeper. It was to be found in a high-minded disinterestedness, in a directness of purpose, in simplicity of heart and manner, which may be far more easily imagined than described.

Certainly it would be difficult to name any person who was more justly or more affectionately regarded, by all who knew him intimately, than the subject of this memoir.

Mr. Cumming died at Lovel Hill Cottage, Berkshire, on the 23d January last, in the 51st year of his age.

* Messrs. Astell and Marjoribanks, in whose discretion was vested the responsibility of making such a grant.

SLAVERY IN THE EAST.

THE description given in our last volume of the state of slavery in India was defective in respect to the western provinces. We propose in the present article to supply that chasm by furnishing, from official sources, ample particulars of domestic slavery, for there is none other, in the Deccan and circumjacent districts.

Mr. Chaplin,* commissioner in the Deccan, states that this practice is prevalent in the Deccan, where it has been recognized by the Hindu law and the custom of the country from time immemorial: it is, however, "a very mild and mitigated servitude rather than an absolute slavery." Slaves are treated with great indulgence, and if they conduct themselves well, they are considered rather as hereditary servants of the family than as menials. They become domesticated in the houses of the upper classes, who treat them with affection, and allow them to intermarry with the female slaves; their male offspring, though deemed base-born, are often considered free. "Marriage," he observes, "is almost equivalent to emancipation." Under the Mahratta government, the master could chastise his slave with moderation; but if death ensued, he was punished severely, by fine or otherwise, according to the pleasure of the government. A master could sell his slave, but in the upper classes it was not considered respectable to do so.

Of the causes of slavery in the Deccan, the same gentleman gives the following account: Debtors sometimes became slaves to their creditors, and a woman of Mahratta caste committing adultery or fornication was sometimes condemned to slavery; but the greatest portion of slaves were reduced to that condition in times of famine, when parents sell their children for the double purpose of saving their lives and themselves from starvation: so that, he adds, "this mode of disposing of a famishing offspring seems beyond all doubt to have been the means of alleviating scarcity." This has led to the practice of kidnapping children by the Lomans and Brinjarries for the purpose of selling them in distant countries: the sale of slaves in the British territories now stands prohibited by the orders of the Supreme Government.

Capt. H. D. Robertson, provincial collector in the Deccan, in a letter which displays great ingenuity and variety of research,† furnishes a statement to the following effect. Slavery in those districts, he says, is entirely domestic. The slaves are individuals who have been sold in infancy by their parents, or kidnapped by Lomans or thieves, and brought from distant countries. A man by law becomes a slave to his creditor when he cannot pay his debt; but unless the debtor be a Coonbec,‡ and the creditor a Brahmin, this law is not often enforced. Mr. Robertson adds: "Indeed the feelings of the community may be said to have nearly rendered it a dead letter, for only three instances have come within my knowledge where creditors have chosen to make their debtors slaves. These instances occurred in Bajee Rao's reign, and the debtors still remain the bondsmen of their creditors. The number of debtors in Poona who cannot discharge obligations is very considerable; and it is highly creditable to their creditors, many of whom hardly know how to support themselves, that I have never been solicited to allow them to make their debtors their slaves. Slaves are treated with great kindness, and it seems

* Report to the Bombay Government, dated 30th August 1822.

† Letter to Mr. Chaplin, dated 10th October 1821.

‡ Coonbees, or Commewars, are a tribe of husbandmen.

seems to be the sense of the people that no one ought to be cruel towards them. I have even found myself borne out by this feeling, and by the opinion of the Hindoo law-officer, in emancipating several slaves whose masters had beaten them severely, or obliged them, as is sometimes the case, to perform labour exceeding their natural powers." Male slaves are not unfrequently emancipated when they attain manhood, but females (for obvious reasons) seldom gain their liberty. Mr. Robertson observes: "in a country like India, subject to severe famine, the relief which is afforded by the inhabitants of a neighbouring province purchasing the children of famished parents, greatly counterbalances the loss of freedom, especially since the state of slavery is so alleviated and soothed by kind treatment and regard. Besides, the slave, especially the female, when she loses her freedom in infancy, becomes habituated to her mode of life, and from never having enjoyed it, cannot so well appreciate the delight of freedom: she also forms an attachment for the family, or for some of its members, and would feel more pain perhaps in being separated from them, than pleasure in acquiring her liberty. In fact, some instances have come before me, where female slaves having complained of the cruelty of one member of the family, have absolutely refused, when I offered to liberate them, to leave the family, in consequence of their attachment to other members, or the fear they entertain that, if set adrift on the world to depend on their own exertions for a livelihood, they might not be able to obtain one."

Capt. James Grant (now Grant Duff), political agent at Sattara, gives the following account of slavery in that part of the country.* He describes it as domestic: almost every respectable Brahmin has one or more slave girls as servants of his household; they are generally treated with kindness. The males were purchased when boys, or born of a slave girl; a Loondie, or slave girl, cannot be emancipated. Mahratta women become Loondies by adulterous intercourse with men of inferior caste. The children of Loondies by a Brahmin are termed Sindees, and become legitimate Mahrattas by intermarriage in the third generation; they call themselves Mahrattas from the first. The children of a Mahratta by a Loondie take the arms and surname of their fathers; but with them also it requires three generations to restore the purity of the caste.

Capt. J. Briggs, political agent in Candeish, states † that in that province the extent of slavery depended much on the condition of the neighbouring districts. About the year 1819, when a famine prevailed to the westward, from 150 to 200 slaves were brought to Candeish. It is considered disreputable, he says, to sell a slave: if they turn out well they are treated as favourite domestics, if not as children; if vicious, they are, for the most part, discharged by the upper classes. The lower orders treat their slaves equally well with their domestics and children, but not unfrequently sell them again. Generally speaking, they are treated by their masters with great affection and kindness. It is not unusual for the lower classes to marry their female slaves; but their children are not considered of pure blood till the third generation. Captain Briggs states that "children born of slaves are not considered slaves," in Candeish.

Capt. Henry Pottinger, collector of the extensive district of Ahmednuggur, gives a very full account of the state of slavery in the province generally. The slavery in the Deccan, he says, is entirely of the domestic or household kind.

* Answers to Queries, dated 17th June 1822.

† Replies to Queries, no date.

kind. The slaves are of four kinds: 1st. such as were sold by their parents under the pressure of want during a general famine; 2d. such as have been kidnapped or enticed from their homes at a great distance and sold there; 3d. such as voluntarily followed Brinjarries and other travelling merchants from foreign territories, during a scarcity, and agreed to be sold when purchasers offered, as the only means of preserving their lives; 4th. such females as were sold by their parents to dancing masters to be brought up to the profession, and who are all prostitutes. The third class is the most numerous; they are chiefly in the houses of Brahmins and Musulmans in the large towns; some Potails have slaves, but very few of the Coonbees. The price of slaves used to be from 500 to 25 rupees, according to the circumstances of the moment and the qualities of the individual. Females were always dearest, and their price depended in a great measure on their youth and good looks; for besides being the servants of the family, they are usually the concubines of the master of it. "Where both male and female slaves were kept, they were allowed to intermarry, and the offspring were not considered slaves." Mr. Pottinger gives the following statement, which exemplifies how slaves were multiplied, and the mode in which the British authorities now deal with this species of relation.

"In 1819 a good number of people of all ages and sexes were brought into the districts under me from Beder, Hyderabad, Golconda, &c. (where a famine existed) by Brinjarries, who had gone to those places with grain. These people had come of their own accord with the Brinjarries, and had promised to allow themselves to be sold; but when they arrived in a country where they found they could support themselves by their labour, they objected to fulfil their agreement, and complained to me, as the Brinjarries had made use of them as coolies on the road; and as I did not consider myself justified in countenancing such traffic, I had it notified that if any one bought these people, they did so at the risk of losing their money; for (I added) should the slaves leave them, I neither would oblige them to return nor allow them to be forced to do so. The consequence of this notification was, that no one would buy a single slave, and the Brinjarries were glad to set them at liberty to save the expense of feeding them. In another instance a great many children were carried to Nassick, where the late Mr. Wilkins then was; that gentleman applied to me for instructions, and I directed that the children should not be allowed to be sold, but that they were to be given in charge of respectable householders, under the express stipulation that they were humanely treated, fed, and clothed, and to be considered free whenever they chose to quit their protectors.

"Since the occurrence of these two circumstances I have had very few applications about slaves, and I believe the custom is rapidly falling into disuse: for the people of the country assumed from my measures that we did not approve of it; and that belief, combined with the natural turn of their inclinations, which is, I think, certainly averse to keeping slaves, has been sufficient to check the practice without any formal prohibition.

"The complaints that have reached me of late have been almost entirely from Naiqueens, or female keepers of sets of dancing girls, from whom young women, educated by them, have eloped with their lovers. In all these cases I was guided by circumstances in my decision. If the man with whom the girl had eloped agreed to pay her original price to the Naiqueen, and to declare the former free, I always sanctioned the arrangement; and even in instances where the girl showed that she had earned more for the Naiqueen than all the expenses she had incurred on her, including her price, I also took no means

means to force the girl to return, but left it to the woman to prevail on her if she could.

"One good effect of the system I have pursued is, to ensure to the slaves who are still in the country the kindest treatment; but this may be said to be a negative advantage, because the people who had slaves appear always to have cherished them more in the light of members of their family than anything else."

In reply to a query, whether it would be consistent with former usage to emancipate the slave when he or she becomes of age, Mr. Pottinger replies: "It would not be consistent with former usage to lay down any fixed rule to this effect: but the truth is, it is not called for. The people (at least in this collectorship) know our sentiments on the subject, and in a very short time, I fancy, there will be no slaves. I never hear of a purchase now, unless it is by some of the Naiqueens or a rich Brahmin, and in both these cases the girl (for it is now exclusively confined to females) may be, if we except the morality of her life, considered fortunate, as she is sure to be well fed, and treated with the utmost kindness."

Mr. Thackeray, a very able and experienced officer, states that slavery in this part of the country was formerly very uncommon; it increased under the Peishwa's administration, but is not now very common, and is in its nature very mild. The sources of slavery he thus enumerates: "1. A woman committing theft or fornication, was sometimes made a slave, when she became a servant of the state, and was sometimes sold. 2. During famines people sometimes sold their female children, who became slaves; this practice is very prevalent to the northward of Meritch. Slaves could not leave their master without his consent; the master could dispose of his slave to another. He was obliged to feed and clothe any children he had by her, and also to perform their marriage ceremonies. The son of the slave girl acted as a domestic servant; and the daughter, if not married, became a slave or prostitute; the son was heir to his mother, and, in failure of a son, the master of the deceased inherited the property, with the exception of that part of it which she had acquired by prostitution, which she was at liberty to bequeath to her daughter. The master was allowed to beat his slave and her son if they did not conduct themselves with propriety, but was fined heavily if death ensued from his maltreatment." He adds: "one of the disputes of the Meritch family is about Sindees, or sons of slaves." The toleration of slavery, he thinks, saves many lives during famine, whilst it does not appear to shake the affections of parents or to encourage oppression. "Bondmen here," Mr. Thackeray says, "are rather hereditary servants than slaves, and I doubt whether they would feel grateful for a law which should emancipate them. By restrictions of slavery we raise its price, and with it the price of life in a famine; and if Government should abolish it, they should provide a fund for starving children."

In our account of eastern slavery, we but briefly noticed the plan of emancipation adopted by the slave owners of Ceylon, at the instance and under the auspices of Sir Alexander Johnston, then chief justice of the island. This object, amongst other benevolent plans contemplated by this gentleman, was long laboured before he had the gratification of witnessing its complete success. In the answer of Sir Alexander to the address, presented upon his departure in 1817, by the chiefs and subordinate priests of Budhoo, on behalf of themselves and the Cingalese professing that religion, the following admirable sentiments occur, in reference to this subject:

“ The ultimate effect which any system of laws is calculated to produce in a country depends, in a great degree, upon the state of society, and upon the system of religion and morals which prevail in that country. As it has always been my wish to see the same effect produced in this country, as is produced invariably in England by an independent and well-administered system of justice, it has been my endeavour always to approximate, as much as circumstances would permit, the state of society and the systems of religion and morals which prevail in Ceylon, to those which prevail in England. With a view to the state of society in Ceylon, I have, since 1806, left no means untried to encourage the proprietors of domestic slaves, to adopt such a resolution as they at my suggestion unanimously adopted in July 1816; and it is a subject of sincere congratulation to all the friends of humanity in Ceylon, whether they profess the faith of Budhoo, or that of Mahomet or Brahma, that the unanimity with which that resolution was passed, was so great as to leave no doubt of its being the sense of the people on this island, that the system of domestic slavery is equally destructive to the morals of the slave, as it is to those of the master and his children.”

The Dutch Burghers of Ceylon, on that occasion, offered their best thanks to the Chief Justice, for affording them (to use their words) “ the pleasing opportunity of adopting as a spontaneous act of our own, your liberal and humane plan relative to the future destiny and comfort of the domestic slaves of Ceylon.” The subject is so well summed up and expressed in the following extract from the “ Eleventh Report of the African Institution,” that any thing we could add besides would be superfluous.

“ It is with feelings of the most lively satisfaction that the Directors have now to state, that the benevolent exertions of Sir Alexander Johnston, the chief justice of the island of Ceylon, for a period of ten years, to induce the proprietors of slaves in that island to fix a day after which all the children born of their slaves should be considered as free, have at length been crowned with success. Early in the month of July 1816, that liberal and enlightened judge addressed himself upon this subject to the principal proprietors of slaves at Colombo, who were upon the list of special jurymen for that province. The proposal contained in the Chief Justice's letter was well received by these gentlemen; and at a general meeting which they called, to take it into consideration, they unanimously resolved, “ That all children born of their slaves after the 12th of August last, should be free.” That day was fixed upon by them, at the suggestion of Sir Alexander Johnston, in honour of the Prince Regent. They afterwards appointed a committee from among themselves, to frame certain resolutions, for the purpose of carrying their benevolent intention into effect; the principal object of which was to secure a provision for the children born free, after the 12th of August 1816, from the masters of their parents, until the age of fourteen; it being supposed that after they shall have attained that age, they will be able to provide for themselves.

“ Sir Alexander Johnston states, that the special jurymen of Colombo consist of about one hundred and thirty of the most respectable Dutch gentlemen of the place; in which number are contained almost all the Dutch who are large proprietors of slaves. Besides these gentlemen, there are jurymen of all the different castes among the natives. The moment the jurymen of these castes heard of the resolution adopted by the Dutch special jurymen, they were so much struck by the example, that they also addressed the Chief Justice, announcing their unanimous acquiescence in the measure which had been resolved upon by the Dutch special jurymen. And Sir Alexander Johnston adds, that the example of the jurymen at Colombo was, he understood, to be immediately followed by all the jurymen on the island. ‘ The state of domestic slavery,’ he says, ‘ which was practised in this island for three centuries, may now be considered at an end.’ ”

ON THE EDUCATION OF CADETS, &c.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: Few subjects are of more importance to the welfare of a political or commercial body, possessing territories in distant regions, than proper instruction of those who are destined to hold responsible situations in those dominions. This importance is increased by the extent of the possessions, by the hostile powers by which they are encompassed, and by the strength and contiguity of those nations who, from interested or jealous motives, desire the expulsion of that body from those dominions. These circumstances are particularly applicable to the Honourable East-India Company, whose authority extends over such wide regions, and embraces so many millions of conquered people, besides being exposed to the inroads of contiguous nations, and the jealousy of European powers. It cannot, therefore, be unreasonable to suppose that the cadets sent out by the Company require a preparation suitable to the discharge of their future duties; and yet how small a proportion of those who leave this country have the slightest acquaintance with the sciences most appropriate to their future profession, or even with the languages of the people they are destined to command! There have been, and there may perhaps still exist, impediments to the attainment of this desirable, and may it not be said, indispensable, knowledge; but these are by no means so great as is generally supposed, and it does not require much effort on the part of those immediately concerned to overcome most of them. That all the elements of science, military knowledge, and the oriental languages, are easily acquired in this country, admits not of doubt. It has, however, been objected, and properly objected, by the Directors and others, to congregating cadets in the metropolis for acquiring the requisite instruction; but this step is no longer necessary, for there are various places in the surrounding country where these things are successfully and efficiently taught; and were they encouraged, there is no doubt of their soon becoming adequate to the proper instruction of every individual designed for India.

Many of those who sail for those distant regions have spent the last two or three years of their lives, either in common country schools, or otherwise, with scarcely any advantage in reference to their future professions; whereas, if that period (the most important of their lives) had been passed at a suitable place, they might have acquired every element requisite to constitute the distinguished officer—the representative of Britain—and the guardian of her rights and honour in the eastern hemisphere. Let parents, then, send their sons to proper private establishments (and there are such) for the last two years of their education, and much will be done that is absolutely necessary for the honour and advantage of the individuals, as well as for the welfare and preservation of our oriental possessions. The difference of expense between supporting them at such establishments and the common schools of the country is *all* that can be urged against the plan; but this is temporary and insignificant when compared with the permanent and essential advantages that would thus be attained. Let the Honourable Court of Directors only require some test of suitable acquirements, and the business would be accomplished. No expensive public institution would be required; the number of those already successfully conducted by individuals would be increased; the means of preparation would soon become adequate to all its wants; parents would be induced to consult the welfare of the Company in that of their sons, by giving them a different education, and the Indian army would be equally distinguished for its knowledge and bravery—its humanity and enterprize.

July 16, 1827.

AMICUS.

MISSIONARY PROCEEDINGS IN THE EAST.

OUR attention is irresistibly recalled to this subject,* a subject of the deepest interest in several points of view, by the attacks which have been made upon the proceedings of Missionary and Bible Societies (united by a strict bond of connection) almost contemporaneously in India and in England. By the last arrivals from Calcutta, we find that a scrutiny has been instituted into the conduct of the Baptist Missionaries of Serampore; and it is scarcely necessary to refer to the disclosures which have been made in this country with regard to the British and Foreign Bible Society, and its committee in Earl Street, which, after experiencing some severe treatment at the hands of the Edinburgh Biblical Committee, from Mr. Haldane, Dr. Thomson, and others, has seen its proceedings subjected to an investigation in the last number of the *Quarterly Review*, which is calculated to rouse the country to a clamorous inquiry, if these things be true. We have no hesitation in affirming that the article in the *Quarterly Review*, if its statements be false, is one of the foulest libels ever published; and if, on the other hand, the charges put forth therein are susceptible of proof, they establish a case of gross misconduct, utterly inexcusable, and productive of the utmost mischief. The dilemma is a fearful one; and even in the alternative most to be desired, a demonstration of the falsity of the most serious charges, the effect already to our own knowledge produced by their circulation will probably be irreparable.

We may be permitted to take a hasty survey of the charges alleged against this Society, or, to speak with more precision, against its management (for it is not the utility of the institution, but the integrity and discretion with which its affairs have been administered, that is admitted to be the point in question) in the *Quarterly Review*.

A breach of trust, in the disingenuous circulation of the apocryphal writings, along with the Holy Scriptures, without the knowledge of the contributors to the fund, is the first charge. The reviewer alleges that in so doing the managers have deliberately lent themselves to one of the most dangerous and insidious corruptions of the church of Rome, and discovered an intellectual or a moral incapacity for the solemn duties they undertook to perform.

Waste and extravagance constitute the next charge. The contributions of the year 1825-6 amounted to £40,333, out of which the managing directors suffered to be deducted a sum of £8,450, more than one-fifth of the whole, for expenses of management, nearly half of which appears to be swallowed up in salaries and allowances to individuals: many of their pecuniary transactions, and in particular, one of these salaries, it is stated they have studiously concealed from the great body of the subscribers.

These two charges are of subordinate importance compared with those which follow: the managers are plainly taxed with distributing unfaithful, and even corrupt representations of the sacred text in foreign languages, owing to the incompetence of the persons whom they employed as translators; and of the boasted ninety-eight versions of the Scriptures into various tongues, made under the auspices of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the reviewer challenges the managers to point out five executed by individuals possessing at once a critical knowledge of the originals, and a vernacular familiarity with the

* See *Asiat. Journ.* vol. xxi. p. 441.

the language, into which they have been made : conditions which seem to us absolutely essential to a just fulfilment of the important office of translating the sacred books.

Passing over the allegation of gross mismanagement on the part of the directors in respect to the Welsh and Irish Bibles, as well as the equivocal circumstances attending the version of the Scriptures into the Mohawk and the Calmuc tongues, we take from the *Review* the following account of the manner in which the eastern versions have been accomplished by the Baptist Missionaries of Serampore. The translation of the New Testament into the Bengalee dialect was executed, and constantly used, many years before it was printed. Dr. Carey states that it was "the product of seven years' severe labour and study." In publishing a second edition Dr. C. tells us, however, that he found himself compelled to alter *almost every verse*, in order to render it conformable to the Indian idiom : "in the first edition," he says, "the words were Bengalee, but the idiom was English !" The other versions,—all of which, it is admitted, were executed (mostly by pundits ignorant of the original languages of Scripture) from the Sanscrit translation of Dr. Carey, or some other version from thence,—were performed in the following manner, as detailed in a "Memoir of translations executed at Serampore," written by the missionaries themselves :—The pundit had an approved version of the Scriptures put before him, in a language he was well acquainted with ; he was then told to express the sentiments he found there, in his own vernacular idiom exactly, to two or three other pundits, who had been long employed with the missionaries, and to ask questions when necessary ; the work of revision was then begun with the pundit, and nothing was suffered to go to press till fully understood and approved : in some instances the alterations were so numerous as to leave little of the first copy standing.

We confess that translations, executed in this manner, from a Sanscrit version by an European from the English, not from the original (as appears to be the fact), whatever credit we may be disposed to give to the industry and vigilance of the missionaries, are not such as we should desire to see dispersed amongst the natives of the East as the unerring oracles and guides of Christianity. It is to be feared that there may be too much reason for the severe remark of the reviewer, that "much serious and most grievous evil has been done already by placing before Indian eyes versions of Holy Writ, alike unfaithful to the original and disgusting from absurd phraseology." We concur, likewise, in the following dictum.

We may venture to lay it down as a general principle, admitting of very rare, if of any, exceptions, that the translator of the sacred writings ought to possess a critical knowledge of the language into which he engages to translate them. It is too evident to require demonstration, that, without a thorough knowledge of the Hebrew and Greek languages, no man can possess that degree of acquaintance with the true meaning of the originals, which is indispensable for the due execution of such a task ; nor is it a whit less indispensable that he should possess a vernacular knowledge of the language into which he engages to translate. Without this, his attempt to convey the sense of the original in a style sufficiently pure and idiomatic to be intelligible and popular among the mass of the community, will inevitably prove unsuccessful. For the absence of either of these qualifications no expedient or contrivance, with which we are acquainted, can form an adequate substitute :—but what are we to say to the want of both ?

Now it is asserted by the reviewer (and the public we agree ought to know the fact) that, "with three or four exceptions, none of the individuals employed

played under the auspices of the British and Foreign Bible Society, either in translating or in editing the Scriptures, have received the benefits of a regular and learned education." It may be alleged that this is no *proof* that the translators are unfaithful; it affords, however, strong *presumption* that the charges of infidelity to the sacred text may not be groundless; and it is certainly a *prima facie* ground of a reproach to the directors that this presumption should be suffered to exist.

There remains a more serious matter still, to which we shall but advert, as it does not coincide with our present object. It is alleged that, under the sanction of the Bible Society, editions of the Bible have appeared on the Continent, "*purified* of the passages which gave offence to the philosophers," which have been eagerly circulated by persons notorious for entertaining heretical or infidel opinions; and that the directors have been made thereby the tools of a set of *encyclopædists*, who have availed themselves of the influence and resources of the Society to promote their own purposes.

It is repugnant to our maxims and feelings to give encouragement to anything which has a tendency to lower the character of individuals or public bodies concerned in the momentous task of imparting the truths of Christianity to benighted nations. To assail the instruments of conversion, is to inflict a present injury, at least, upon the cause: censures, therefore, upon missionaries or biblical societies, whose labours are conjunct, should be most warily made, and never but upon the surest grounds. This doctrine we have ever held, and upon it we have uniformly acted. It was with this motive that we stood up in defence of the Serampore missionaries, when attacked by the *Oriental Magazine* of Calcutta and the *Oriental Herald* of London,* which imputed to them actions dishonourable to them as men. But this cautious doctrine has a limit; and we are so far from conceiving that no investigations should be made, no charges listened to, in respect to the conduct of missionary affairs, especially in the East, that we distinctly state our belief that these affairs do demand some inquisition on the part of the public, by whose contributions the societies formed for the prosecution of missionary objects are supported.

When we look over the long list of subscriptions to the various societies in England, and contemplate the enormous sums raised, mostly from persons of limited resources, for the purpose of circulating the Scriptures, and for other means of conversion, it impresses us forcibly with the conviction that some very efficient examination and control, in respect to the appropriation of the money, are absolutely called for. We disavow, most unreservedly, even a latent suspicion of fraud, speculation, or dishonesty of any kind, in the managers of these funds; but they constitute so potent an engine for the accomplishment of the purpose for which they are subscribed, that the world ought to be satisfied that its powers are not enfeebled by mismanagement, that is, by injudicious application of the money, which would have all the ill effects of, or perhaps be attended with worse consequences than, direct knavery.

With the vast means at the disposal of the bible and missionary societies—
vast

* We observe a complaint against us in one of the Calcutta papers (written apparently by the same individual who penned the criticism upon the missionaries in the *Oriental Magazine*), for associating that publication with the *Oriental Herald*. We admit that the association is not very flattering to the former; but the fault is not ours that both publications concurred in an attack which, after reconsideration, we still think unjust. We shall feel as little scruple in exposing the mistakes of the *Oriental Magazine* as those of the *Oriental Herald*, where the exposure is called for; nay, we shall be more prompt to oblige misstatements in the former, which enjoys and is entitled to a regard never due and not now paid to the latter.

vast in themselves, small, perhaps, in relation to the mighty object meditated by these societies—it is natural to repeat the question again and again—what has been done? We have earnestly, with a feeling most friendly to the cause of missions, read and listened to pamphlets and reports and speeches without number, upon the effects produced by missions, and by the circulation of the Scriptures amongst the heathen; and although it would be unjust to deny that good effects have been visible from these means of instruction, yet we are forced, reluctantly forced, to acknowledge, that the effects have been utterly incommensurate with what (humanly speaking) we might fairly expect them to be.* Perhaps this inference may partly proceed from the vagueness and declamatory tone of most of the statements given to the public upon this subject. It is remarkable how rarely the publications of the missionary societies afford distinct and lucid information as to the actual results of the several missions; they are, generally speaking, filled with accounts of insipid colloquies with ignorant natives; ejaculations, often much out of place, upon their habits and superstitions; in short, they are calculated to display the piety of the writers from whose journals or letters they are taken, and to work upon the religious feelings of a certain class of readers; but they are greatly deficient in that which should constitute the chief object of such publications, namely, regular, detailed, and intelligible statements of the effects resulting from missionary exertions.

A few isolated instances may be appealed to as evidence of the moral good effected by the efforts of missionaries and the distribution of Bibles: we would admit the fact, that such moral benefit must, to some extent, be the consequence of the residence amongst rude men of individuals displaying an example of such regulated habits and personal decorum as our missionaries. But even where the appeal may be most triumphantly made, in the Sandwich Islands, which have been turned, as by a miracle, from savage life to civilization, to decent manners, and to Christianity—even there, substantial grounds exist for believing that injudicious conduct has marred, to a certain degree, the victory which religion has undoubtedly obtained in this part of the Pagan world.

In the absence of distinct evidence from the missionaries themselves as to the number and character of their converts, we are forced either to remain contentedly in comparative ignorance upon this important point, or to resort to authorities which are alleged to be hostile to the cause of missions, and disposed to conceal their success, or exaggerate their disappointments. Yet there are some authorities not immediately connected with the missionary cause, but not unfriendly to it, whence we derive information far from flattering as to the prospects of missions in India. Mr. Lushington's work on the Institutions of Calcutta, which breathes a spirit of benevolence towards missions and missionaries, tempered by the sober discretion of a reflecting mind, contains strong proofs that the progress of conversion in that country is insignificant, and moreover, that the proceedings of the missionaries, in respect to the natives, are not always guided by wisdom and discretion. More positive testimony appears from an article which has lately appeared in a Calcutta paper,† “On the Character of Native Converts,” from the pen of Mr. Adam, late a Baptist missionary himself. We extract the following passage:

Our readers are not now to be informed of the great sums that have been expended, and the many lives that have been lost, in the cause of Christian missions in India; but

what

* It must be candidly confessed that Bishop Heber was sanguine as to the effects produced.

† The *Bengal Chronicle*.

what have been the actual fruits of those missions is still considered by many to be a matter *sub judice*. One fact appears indisputable, that no natives of wealth, of learning, and of respectability, have become professed converts to the Christian faith; but that they are almost all, if not altogether and without exception, taken from the inferior castes and classes of native society. We are certainly among the last to maintain that poverty is in itself a disgrace, that ignorance is a sin where the means of knowledge have not been possessed, or that the poor and the ignorant have not as clear a right to choose a religion for themselves as the most noble and learned of the land: but when we find that from amongst a numerous and needy population, such as that which covers the face of India, a few hundreds of poor and ignorant people, perhaps the poorest and the most ignorant of all, and the most addicted, as the poor and the ignorant always are, to the prevailing superstitions, are the only converts made by the preachers of a new religion professed by the conquerors and rulers of the country, we confess that this fact suggests an inference not the most creditable to their motives, which, even without any direct evidence, we should feel it almost impossible to dislodge from our mind.

This statement, it must be recollected, is made in India—at Calcutta—in the face of those who could contradict the assertion if it were false; it is published in a party newspaper, which the journals opposed to it in politics would be prompt to assail, if contradictory statements were offered. One political opponent* of the *Bengal Chronicle*, however, seems to concur in the views taken by Mr. Adam on this subject. The latter writer further states (and supports his statement by an obscure passage in the *Friend of India*, published by the missionaries of Serampore), that these missionaries and the Church Missionaries at Mirzapore are in a state of discord, on account of several converts who have been induced to desert from the Baptists to the church, by a *higher ratio of wages*. “The converts,” he says, “to the amount of twenty or more, very willingly closed with the proposal, and are in consequence at this moment sitting within the pale and enjoying the smiles of the established hierarchy.”† If this statement be correct, and it was publicly made and has been republished, without its being, to our knowledge, disputed—it is impossible not to perceive the motives which have led to the conversion of these miserable men.

But we will take a still more recent authority, and from another part of India: the following passage appears in a report of the proceedings of the *Fourth Annual Meeting* of the Scottish Missionary Society at Bombay, on the 16th February last. After stating the progress of education, and that 18,000 tracts had been printed, and a large proportion distributed in the Southern Concan, and other stations in the interior, it is said:

These, we think, are great things. *The missionaries cannot as yet, indeed, say that any actual conversions to Christianity have been made by them; but they are using the likeliest, nay, the appointed means: and, as believers in the Word of God, we do not doubt that the appointed means will be followed by success.* At any rate, the circumstance of giving education to 3,000 children is not to be overlooked. In so far, every man who wishes well to his fellow men, will admit that the missionaries are doing positive and great good, and that their labours merit public countenance and support.

These are testimonies which, added to the incidental and casual acknowledgments now and then to be met with in the published journals of the missionaries, shew, we think, that they make small progress in India; and they will continue to be retarded, it is our firm opinion, until the more general diffusion of education, which must be the harbinger of the Gospel truths, makes way for their march over the bulwarks of Hindu superstition.

But

* The Calcutta *John Bull*.

† Mr. Adam, it should be observed, is now an Unitarian.

Upon a former occasion we endeavoured, perhaps superfluously, to show that the conversion of the Hindus was to be effected immediately by human means; that is to say, that no miracle must be expected to open an avenue to its progress in the present age, any more than in past times, when the gradual enlargement of the empire of the Gospel was effected by means which can be traced to immediate human agency as clearly as any other event which history records. But will it be credited that missionaries not only entertain, but boldly avow, the belief, that human agency in this matter is needless; that we should patiently look to the Almighty for the accomplishment of the desirable event of converting the Hindus, and despise all instruments? Yet what other construction can be put upon the following passage in the speech of Dr. Marshman, an old Serampore missionary, at the last anniversary of the London Missionary Society?

Allow me, for a moment, to press upon you the gracious promises which secure to us the spiritual conquest of India. Are not the heathen given to the Son of God for his inheritance? and when shall he take possession of it? Is this *the last time*?—and are we in the last stage of the last time, when the prophecies are about to receive their fulfilment, and shall our hope sink? Shall not the God of Love perfect what He has begun? Shall not He, who has thus made bare His arm in making Brahmins and Mussulmans to preach the truth as it is in Jesus, carry on the work to its completion? What then remains, but that we look up to the God of Mercy; and, according to His own direction, give Him no rest, till He make Jerusalem a praise and a glory in the earth? Oh let our attention be taken off from man—taken off from all instruments, and directed to that God who can make all nations obey His own Word!

We copy this from the last number of the *Missionary Register*, which expressly states that the reports, in which the foregoing is included, are published under the sanction of the respective societies; they are therefore undoubtedly genuine. It is this proneness to regard the work of conversion as the favourite concern of Providence, whence a man who surrenders his mind to such a belief is necessarily indifferent to the maxims of worldly prudence and policy, which fills us with apprehensions as to the consequences of *itinerant preaching* in India.

If it be, as Dr. Marshman believes, a work to be left to the exclusive province of a superintending Providence, where is the utility of disbursing for this object large sums of money, extorted in many instances from those who perhaps conscientiously defraud the sick, and the naked, and the hungry, for the sake of contributing to the spiritual welfare of a distant people?

Entertaining a very different opinion from Dr. Marshman, and believing that the work of evangelizing the Hindus must be accomplished by human means and human instruments, under the superintendence (not more special than that which regulates other courses of human action) of an unerring Providence, we hold it to be essential that these means and these instruments should be governed by the restraint of wholesome and judicious counsels. It is admitted by the excellent Bishop Heber, that the “best and safest way” of carrying on the work of conversion in India is by “private persons alone, and although not forbidden, in no degree encouraged, by Government.” Private individuals, however, must be controlled and their actions regulated, or their efforts may be valueless, or perhaps mischievous.

We are cordial friends to the missionary cause, and would render it all the service in our humble power. These remarks are written from a conviction that they may serve, not disserve, the interests of missions.

THE PADRIES OF MENANGCABOW.*

THE people under the designation of Padries are called by the natives *Bangsa* or *Norinchi*, from the names of the two principal districts from which they originally spread themselves. *Bangsa* is the capital of *Lintow*, formerly called *Soompoo Coodoos* (or sacred quarters), the residence of the *Tooanko* of *Passaman*, as he is now called. *Lintow* is situated at the foot of *Bookit Bagomba*, within the grand division of *Looboo Agam*. *Norinchi* is situated in *Renna Leema Pooloo*, at the foot of *Goonoong Tella Mow* (*Caanang*).

The four *Tooankos* of *Allahan Panjang* were men of low estate, and acted under the authority of the *Tooanko* of *Norinchi*. They subsequently became so powerful, that they broke off from the *Tooanko* and set up for themselves. These are the three grand divisions of *Padries*: the *Tooanko Passaman*, of *Lintow*; the *Tooanko Norinchi*, of *Looboo Agam*; and the *Allahan Panjang Tooankos*.

The title of *Tooanko* (my lord), so common at *Nattal* and thereabouts, that it is bestowed upon every petty raja, is at *Menangcabow* reserved solely for men of learning and ability, whether they be rajas or not; and an unlearned raja is seldom tolerated. When such an occurrence happens, he generally falls as a passive tool into the hands of some cunning priest.

At *Cota Tenga*, in *Looboo Agam*, there resided a learned and famed priest, since dead, known generally as *Tooanko Cota Tenga*. He became so celebrated, that he had the instructing of a vast number of individuals, many of whom, at this day, fill the chief posts in the interior. The present *Tooanko Passaman*, then but a commoner, and the father of the present *Tooanko* of *Norinchi*, were his scholars, and a friendship between them commenced upon this basis, and continued not only during the life of the *Tooanko*, but with his son the present *Tooanko* of *Norinchi*. So many individuals trained under one master, naturally imbibed many similar prejudices and opinions, and a literary intercourse no wise tending to the safety of the general liberty, appears most likely to have been carried on. The *Tooanko* of *Passaman*, yet a commoner, but shrewd and intelligent, married into the royal family. By the natural decease of some of the individuals of this family, and by murderous treason, he found himself elevated to a station, where decision and action were eminently and immediately necessary. By his emissaries and his arms, and by the means of his friends, he trampled down opposition, and became the head of a league not less unexampled in *Sumatran* history, than astonishing in its effects; whether as to the nature of its conquests, or the intelligence by which such numerous conquests are held under the yoke.

A sketch of *Menangcabow* will here be interesting, and is indeed necessary. *Menangcabow*, in its most extensive sense, includes *Tanna Darratan*, *Looboo Agam*, and *Renna Leema Pooloo*, and as such it will be here spoken of. *Pa-reeangan*, situated at the foot of the great volcano (*Goonoong Berappee*), was the original seat of the royal family. They subsequently removed to *Paggar Rooyoong* or *Battang Selo*.

Paggar Rooyoong (sometimes called *Ballie Jango*, this being the proper name of the *Campong*, while the other means the river *Selo*), is situated in *Sooroo-wassa*, at the foot of *Bookit Bagomba*, on the opposite side to *Lintow*. The

chief

* This sketch of the *Menangcabow* government, with reference to the disturbances amongst the *Padries* which have prevailed for some time past in the interior of *Sumatra*, is from the *Malacca Observer*.

chief is called Raja Allam. His proper title is Maha Raja de Raja, the name of the original founder of the monarchy, and supposed to be a great grandson of Mahomet. The title is however too sacred for common use. The Raja Allam, though brought up in all the learning of the age, generally gave way to his propensities of gambling and smoking. He was seldom called upon to exercise his authority, as this was vested in his ministers, as hereunder enumerated. The chiefs immediately under the Raja Allam were Eang Duo Selo. These were Raja Addat and Raja Ebaddat; the former deciding in cases touching the law and tradition; the latter presiding in all matters of sacred appeal. They originally formed members of the Paggar Rooyoong house, and though, by length of time, relationship cannot be traced, yet the dependence is claimed and admitted respectively; and as the Raja Allam can only marry in their families, and those of the Eang Ampat Selo, a proper understanding and subordination still exist.

The Eang Duo Selo resided at Soompoo Coodoos, now called Lintow, of which Bangsa and Boocho are the principal cities.

Next in rank are the Eang Ampat Selo, whose origin is altogether fabulous. Their names or titles are Bandhara, of Soongye Taru; Mangcoodoom, of Si Maneea; Endomo, of Sooroowassa; and Calea, of Padang Gunteecang. Of these four, the Bandhara is the principal chief, and is never called upon for personal service when the Raja Allam moves; while the remaining three, distinguished by the denomination of Eang Teege Selo, accompany and attend upon the Raja Allam, in all his processions or travels. Each of these four possesses a large extent of territory, and a numerous body of dependents.

The grand assembly is formed of the six Selo, and all matters, judicial or political, are settled by them. The Duo Selo have casting votes, according as the case may be secular or ecclesiastical. A final reference can be made, when necessary, to the Raja Allam.

The last Raja Allam had two sons—Raja Coondoo, of Bookit Bagoniba, and Raja Bawang, of Sooroowassa; they were put to death by the Tooanko Passaman, leaving each of them a son. The son of Raja Coondoo was likewise murdered by the same hand. The son of Raja Bawang fled to the Dutch, who afterwards took him back to Sooroowassa.

The last Raja Addat died childless, about twenty-five years ago, and the title in consequence was taken by the Raja Ebaddat. He who bore this double title died about ten years ago, leaving a son, yet a junior, who should rightfully succeed to both titles. It was a daughter of this last Raja Ebaddat whom the Tooankoo of Passaman married. The Tooankoo has changed the name of Soompoo Coodoos to Lintow, and assumes all the rights of the consolidated offices of Raja Addat and Raja Ebaddat. He has the son of the latter in his possession, and he is of course pootih.* The Tooan Raja Gadis has not been molested by the Tooanko. She, of her free will, is pootih; and being too sacred for marriage, added to her advanced age, and her general opinions chiming in with the Pootihs, she has been left in peace. She is considered as the aunt of the last Rajah Allam.

The Eang Ampat Selo are Pootih.—The Teege Selo are yet juniors, but Raja Bandhara is of age, and bears the title of Pomoncha Allam. To him have been confided (it is said) all the regalia, by the unanimous voice of the chiefs. Looboo Agam is now under the general control of the Tooanko of Norinchi.

* *Pootih* means white, and is applied by the Padries to all persons submitting to their doctrines, while they designate others as *itam*, or black.

Norinchi. Renna Leema Pooloo is under its various chiefs, and Lintow and Sooroowassu under the Tooanko Passaman. The Tooanko of Norinchi has for some time past lived peaceably; and Itams and Pootihs are united in Looboo Agam.

The Padries militant forbid gambling, liquors, opium, tobacco, and sirih; and a variety of personal observances as to the colour and wearing of the clothes, and to the posture and carriage of the body are insisted upon. They enforce upon all, the observances required in the Koran, and hence praying cannot be dispensed with in any one.

Trade and agriculture are encouraged. The conquered Rajas are despised if not learned and intelligent; and if they resist they are put to death. Having once fixed upon the chief, and received a tax from the individuals of the country in token of subjection, the country is left in peace. They are guided by the Koran in all judicial matters, and hence it is that in the interior many individuals are found maimed, having lost a limb for robbery or other misdemeanor. There are few or no written histories. Each district or subdivision has its own mosque. The priests are not distinguished by titles, and the most intelligent is required to Batcha K'toba.

The houses in the interior are plank or bamboo, and covered with ijoo, or attap, or lallang, according to the ability of the individual.

The Tooanko Passaman has fortified Bookit Bagomba, which has a valley on it. This valley is surmounted by a flying bridge of bamboos, rendering a ready communication with either part; and if the Tooanko be forced from one of his holds, he can cut away the bridge, and render the communication with his second stand impracticable.

MAGNETIC VARIATION.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

Sir: Among other observations of variation recently obtained from India, that at Bencoolen in 1822 is stated, on good authority, to have been, from a mean of a series, $1^{\circ} 15'$ east.* In 1794, I laid off a true meridian at Bencoolen, and on it I took 396 observations, in order to ascertain the *diurnal* as well as the ordinary variation. I need not state the process or describe the apparatus, as the subject is fully stated in my papers in the *Philosophical Transactions* of that period. The daily general variation fluctuated between $1^{\circ} 6'$ and $7'$, and $1^{\circ} 10'$ and $12'$, so that the medium may be taken at $1^{\circ} 8'$ east. It thus appears that, during twenty-eight years, the annual increase has been *fifteen seconds*. The approximated position of both magnetic poles cannot, as stated in former papers, be far from the truth. According to their equal rate of movement, as made out, the north-west pole was about 37° to the eastward of

* Mr. Lewis, a gentleman of scientific acquirements, brought to me from India the important magnetic observations alluded to; and they were taken from the *memoranda* of the Bengal Marine Surveyor-General, and from those of the Assistant Surveyor-General of Madras: their accuracy, therefore, can be depended on. The variation at Bencoolen was taken on the tower on a gateway of Fort Marlborough. It is a curious, and probably an useful fact to mention, *en passant*, that this building has stood near thirty years, where others, not a third of the height, have been unable to resist the earthquakes so prevalent on Sumatra. I was directed to construct an appropriate structure for an astronomical clock. It was raised on the principle of a solid, or with very thick walls below, and diminishing upwards. This tower, sustaining a lofty flagstaff, stands on the piers of one of the gates of a fort little liable to any regular attack; and this foundation has contributed, in some measure, to its stability. During earthquakes, it is observed to rock like a cradle. The fact stated may prove serviceable, in future similar instances, as a successful experiment, in the face of probability, if not of a certainty, of failure, under different circumstances.

of the meridian of Bencoolen, in 1794, and the south-east about 31° on the east side. Thus situated, their effect must be (as evinced by common experiments) to neutralize each other's action, relatively to angular position and distance. Thus, while the north-west pole attracted the north end of the needle eastward, the south-east counteracted this effect, and drew the south end of the needle eastward. The north-west pole, though more distant, acted more forcibly, on account of its greater angle with the Bencoolen meridian; and this combination of action may account for the very small increase of east variation; and also, in general, for the very slow alteration of variation all over the eastern seas. Captain King states, that in 1822, the variation in 90° east, and 22° south, was nearly 3° west; and Cook, in 1771, and Bougainville, in 1669, found little more, a few degrees to the north-west of this situation. The position of the two poles at these periods will account for this small variation; and their present position, by parity of reasoning, applies equally to the small alteration now found in the variation, at a considerable distance from each side of the magnetic equator.

In 1756, Canton discovered in London that the needle was subject to a *daily vibrating variation* of about eight minutes; the greatest being in the afternoon, with nearly a double effect in the summer months. In two situations in the southern hemisphere, I first ascertained that this description of variation increased eastward, a few minutes from morning to afternoon, being a *contrary* movement to that prevalent in the northern hemisphere. In the *Transactions* of the French Academy of Science, the subject is noticed as follows.—“Mr. Macdonald's labours led to two important results. The first (which every philosopher appears to have adopted) is, that the daily variations between the tropics have a sensibly less extent than in Europe; the second (to which less attention has been paid) is, that at the same hours at which in one climate the northern extremity of the needle moves towards the west, at Fort Marlborough and St. Helena, which are situated to the south of the equator, the movement is directly opposite, namely, to the east.” Thus, the French circumnavigators mention and confirm my observations. They found a west anomaly in two places, and account for it from a temporary defect in observing. The needle I used moved on a point. Had I had one on the suspension principle, the daily variation might have proved greater, more especially at St. Helena, where, in fifty-eight observations, three and four times a day, the daily movement from west to east was $3' 55''$. If observations were taken as far south from the magnetic equator as London is north of it, the effect would be similar as to quantum of variation.

I ascribed the *daily* variation to the effect of solar heat on the magnetic poles; but the recently discovered influence of the sun's rays on the needle, furnishes a more direct cause. Morichini has discovered that a needle placed in the violet-colour of the prismatic spectrum acquired polarity. Berard and Professor Confiliachi in vain tried this experiment, in which Mrs. Somerville succeeded, by covering the half of the needles with paper. This ingenious lady found that the green, blue, and indigo-rays magnetized a needle, though less readily. By placing needles as prepared, under different-coloured glasses exposed to the sun, magnetism was communicated. By placing a white steel needle in the sun, with one-half enveloped in green ribbon, and the other in paper, it became magnetic. Mr. Baumgartner, of Vienna, oxidated a needle, or rendered it rusty. He polished parallel zones on it, and on exposing it for some time to a strong sun, or to concentrated rays, the zones became *north poles*, and the parts remaining oxidised *south poles*. The polished extremities became

became *stronger* north poles. By polishing longitudinal stripes on the needle, no effect was obtained. Mr. Christie, of Cambridge, to whose scientific labours magnetic science is so much indebted, has ascertained that the oscillations of a magnetic needle are retarded by the rays of the sun, and that they are fewer in the same time; stopping sooner when in the sun than when the oscillating needle vibrates in shade, that is, when the oscillations are made under cover. He has ascertained, that with an increment of temperature, there is a decrement of magnetic intensity; and that the compound solar rays possess magnetic properties from some principle independent of their heat. From all these new and important discoveries, we may ascribe the daily variation principally to the direct action of solar heat, allowing some effect to the more or less cold state of the magnetic poles. Thus, at Port Bowen, the maximum of west variation happened when the sun was west from the station; and at St. Helena and Bencoolen, the needle moved eastward in the morning, and from a diminution of intensity arising from increased temperature, the needle reverted slowly to the morning position. The increase of the daily variation observed in summer, evidently arises from the longer and more direct effect of the sun's rays on the needle; producing a stronger magnetic action of undoubted occurrence.

The Court of Directors of the East-India Company would aid essentially in arriving at what is now wanting, *viz.* a theory of magnetic variation, by directing that a small strong ship should sail southward on the supposed south-east line of no variation, under, probably, 118° east longitude, till the dipping-needle was found to stand perpendicular. If the ice in the summer there should stop progress, the oscillations of the needle in a certain time, with the latitude and longitude of the position, would enable us to ascertain the true place of the pole, by comparing these with the real situation of the north-west pole, which it must be intended to discover, beyond approximation.

By drawing a line round the globe, through the approximated place of the two magnetic poles, we have a circle, in every part of which the needle will point to or lie in the plane of both poles. By taking the half of the east and west divisions of this primary magnetic meridian, the farthest north and farthest south point of the magnetic equator is obtained. The south point will be in about 16° south latitude, and 91° west longitude; and the north will be in nearly 86° east longitude, and $16^{\circ} 30'$ north latitude. It would appear from this, that at present, the magnetic crosses the terrestrial equator at 8° east, and 172° west longitude. As the poles move in their orbits, so the magnetic equator is constantly changing. It now passes to the north of Pernambuco in Brazil; near Cape Rocket; to the south of Goa; to the south of Vizagapatam; over the north of Cambodia; over the south of Manilla; through the Carolinas Islands; and over the Marquesas. On this equator, provided the place is equally distant from both magnetic poles, the needle will be horizontal, or will have no dip. It is to be recollected, however, that all this is deduced from the approximated position of the two magnetic poles, which, as said by Doctor Halley (in reference to *four* supposed by him), "revolve by laws which time and accurate observations only can fully establish;" and such observations, those who study this obscure, but *national* science, are necessarily calling for, from competent quarters.

We have not heard, Mr. Editor, what success Professor Hanstein, and his associate, the French philosopher, have had in pole-hunting in northern Russia. Halley had imagined a south-west pole, and the Professor places his at $12^{\circ} 43'$ from the earth's south pole, and in 123° of west longitude. These
eminent

eminent men placed a pole in that situation, in order to account for the great anomaly in variation found about Cape Horn, and more especially at the Falkland Islands. Let me endeavour to shew, that this idea of a south-west pole is unfounded on any fact that can bear it out. Captain Basil Hall found there, in 1824, an east variation of 22° . As the north-west pole is about 10° to the west of Port Egmont, and as the south-east pole is nearly under its meridian, the variation due to their conjoint effect ought to be a few degrees west. Again, if we allow that the two poles of the above philosophers attract the south extremity of the needle into the above east variation, the action of the known north-west and south-east poles would certainly neutralize it to *nearly nothing*. Besides, Captain Cook, in 1774, was about 6° to the north-east of the two supposed south-west poles, and found a variation that pointed to his own south-east pole, and no dip that indicated the contiguity of the two poles of the learned philosophers. We must then try this anomalous and seemingly unaccountable question on far different grounds. At Port Egmont, near the Falkland Islands, Commodore Byron, in 1764, found a variation of $23^{\circ} 30'$ east, giving only a degree and a half of diminution in sixty years, as due to polar, while the standing east variation of 22 degrees must be ascribed to local attraction, prevalent also in many other situations. We well know, that in our hemisphere, masses of iron, such as common fire-grates, iron bars, the tyres of wheels, and such like, have a north pole at the bottom, and a south at the top; and that close to such objects the polarity of the earth is overcome, as evinced by a sensitive needle. In the southern hemisphere the effect is the reverse. Iron pervades the whole shell of the earth, and is discovered even in the vegetable and animal system. Such places as have a strong local attraction are founded on iron-ore, on metallic-ore, or on magnetic strata, which act on the needle more powerfully than the magnetic poles of the earth. In this fact, we see at once, the cause of the extraordinary *standing* or *durable* variation at the Falkland Islands, as a primary instance. Navigators have always experienced much irregularity in their different compasses, in the south-west quarter of the globe, and ascribed it to what they called the attraction of the land, which, when high and near, will certainly attract the plummet of a quadrant, on a principle distinct from magnetic effect. The magnetic strata on which the Falkland Islands are based, may account for the anomaly in question. The upper part of these strata, as explained above, possesses a north polarity, which acted on the south end of the needle at Port Egmont, and inclined the north extremity into the east angle of variation so long prevalent there. In the absence of a better, I give this as a solution, founded at least on common experience, of the sympathy subsisting between metals and magnets.

Yours,

Summerlands, May 2d, 1827.

JOHN MACDONALD.

P.S. The complement of the latitude of London, and the arc of the meridian between the magnetic pole and the north pole, with the intercepted angle of 100° , give two sides and the intercepted angle of a spherical triangle to find the angles at the base. This gives the variation at London to be $23^{\circ} 17'$. Allowing for the attraction of the south-east pole in the inverse ratio of the square of the distance, this calculation is near a degree and a half less than it should be. This shews the necessity of finding the *exact* position of each magnetic pole.

* * We insert the foregoing at the particular request of our correspondent, as belonging to a series of papers which have appeared in this Journal; but we must decline in future long communications on a subject like this, which is adapted for a work purely scientific, and has no direct connection with India.

Review of Books.

Aperçu des Résultats Historiques de la Découverte de l'Alphabet Hiéroglyphique Egyptien. Par M. CHAMPOLLION LE JEUNE. 1827.

THIS sketch of the results, historically considered, attending the discovery of the ancient Egyptian hieroglyphical alphabet, appears in two consecutive parts of the *Bulletin Universel* of Paris.* Its statements are tinctured with the enthusiasm natural to the character, and we may add to the nation, of the writer, when treating upon a subject so likely to inflame the mind as this discovery, the acknowledged results of which have been great, whilst its prospective effects allure the imagination to feast upon wonders.

It is needless for us to retread the beaten path of controversy concerning the respective claims of Dr. Young and M. Champollion to the merit of this important discovery. The world seems now disposed to assign to each of these persons the palm; for Dr. Young incontestably struck out the first spark of light, yet he dispelled little of the gloom; and M. Champollion, by availing himself, indeed, of Dr. Young's aid, discovered much more than Dr. Young, and has applied what he gained to practical purposes. These two individuals will probably be regarded, in after times, with relation to this discovery, as Columbus and Vespucci are at present in regard to that of America: the former touched the precincts of the continent and demonstrated its existence; the latter sailed along it, surveyed its coasts, and showed the amplitude and importance of the discovery.

M. Champollion commences his sketch by referring to his former works for an account of the means, exactly conformable to philological criticism, whereby he arrived at the possession of important data, on a subject heretofore relinquished as altogether hopeless; and by observing prettily, that from the encouragement given in France to this study, and the consequent formation of a magnificent collection of Egyptian antiquities at Paris, the kingdom of the Pharaohs has become, as it were, a dependency of the French crown.

As the system of the hieroglyphical alphabet is entirely founded upon the comparative analysis of the proper names of Greek and Roman sovereigns, inscribed upon Egyptian edifices; it is natural, he observes, to begin with those historical relics preserved on monuments, of pure Egyptian origin and character, which relate to the Greek kings and Roman emperors, to whose dominion the Egyptians were subject.

Under the descendants of Ptolemy Lagus, the Egyptians, though deprived of political liberty, enjoyed all their religious institutions. Magnificent temples were built and decorated, during this long period of servitude; and although they originated entirely in the piety of the people, they bore the name and title of the reigning sovereign: conformably to ancient usage, in past ages of freedom, whereby kings were regarded as representatives of the gods, and were associated with them in religious rites. The great edifices of Egypt hence become, in some degree, historical records of the names and successions of the kings. In respect to those of the Egyptian race the representations are exact; but the Ptolemys and the Cæsars are decked with Egyptian titles and insignia: "il semble," says M. Champollion, "que l'art Egyptien cherchât ainsi à dissimuler aux yeux du peuple l'asservissement de la patrie."

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The most recent name on Egyptian monuments is that of the Emperor Commodus, sculptured on the little temple of Contra-Lato, which shows in its style the decay of the Egyptian art. The name of the unworthy son of Marcus Aurelius is also read four times on the famous zodiac of Esné, which was fondly imagined to surpass the earliest limits of history: thus, says our author, "one of the first results of employing the alphabet was to prove that the most modern imperial name was to be found in the dedication of an Egyptian monument hitherto regarded as the most ancient."

The legends of the immediate predecessors of Commodus, Marcus Aurelius, and his colleague, Lucius Verus, decorate the cornice of one of the little temples in the isle of Philæ. The name of Antoninus is found upon a propylon in the same island, and upon one at Denderah. Other inscriptions show that the palace of Medinet-Abu, at Thebes, was repaired under this emperor, and that two temples in the oasis El-Kharjeh were dedicated to the god Ammon in the name of Antoninus Pius.

The memory of Hadrian, who resided in Egypt during the 13th year of his reign, is preserved only (if we except the ruins of Antinoë) by some bas-reliefs in the temples of Denderah and Esné; but there is an obelisk on the Monte Pincio at Rome with an hieroglyphic inscription, which denotes that it was raised in honour of the celebrated favourite Antinous, in the name of Hadrian and the *Empress Sabina*.

Antiquity gives to Trajan the nick-name of *Parietarius*, because his name is found upon all the buildings constructed or repaired during his reign; and it is remarkable that the number of Egyptian inscriptions bearing his titles confirms the imputed foible of this excellent prince.

No Egyptian monument bears the name of Nerva; but the names of Domitian and Titus are found in several places, especially that of the former. There are also the remains of an obelisk in Benevento, which M. Champollion found, from the hieroglyphical legend upon it, to have been executed in Egypt by order of the Roman prefect Lucilius Rufus Beneventinus, to be placed in front of a temple dedicated to the goddess Isis, in the city of Benevento, for the sake of the Emperor Domitian, "*the friend of the human race, the mundane god, and whose name is most gracious!*"

The titles given to Titus are more simple, and therefore probably better deserved. There is a monument dedicated to his memory in the oasis of Dakhal, and M. Champollion thinks his name occurs in the legends of Vespasian, his father, on the portico of the great temple at Esné.

Few traces are found of the brief and agitated reigns of Vitellius, Otho, and Galba; but a multitude of bas-reliefs in the temples of Philæ and Ashmounain prove that their decoration was completed under the reign of Nero, as well as a large portion of the great temple at Denderah. The celebrated zodiac in this temple also bears his imperial legend, as executed in his reign; it is not therefore more ancient than A. D. 37; the zodiac of Esné is a century and a half later.

The names and titles of Nero's predecessors, Claudius, Caius, and Tiberius, are found upon the edifices of Esné, Denderah, Philæ, &c.; but the most ancient portions of these buildings, and several in Nubia, bear the imperial legend of Augustus.

M. Champollion deduces the following conclusions from these facts:—1st, that the Egyptian form of worship was publicly exercised, and retained all its external splendour, under the empire of the Cæsars; 2dly, that the great mass of buildings adorned with hieroglyphic inscriptions, to which a date

date was assigned anterior to the conquest of the Persians, are far more modern; and, 3dly, that this system of characters was always used in monumental writings, amongst the Egyptians, till their entire conversion to Christianity.

An attentive examination of the edifices and sculptures executed in Egypt under the Greek dominion proves, in the opinion of M. Champollion, contrary to the hypothesis of Winckelmann, that the Grecian style deteriorated that of Egypt, and that the study of the Greek master-pieces by the Egyptian artists tended to rob Egyptian sculpture of that lively and exact imitation of local nature which so eminently distinguishes all the products of the ancient chisels. There is much soundness in this remark.

The number and importance of the buildings founded or decorated by the Lagides discover the astute and sagacious policy of these Greek kings, who, in order to confirm their sway in a land so strange to Grecian manners, gave entire scope to the public faith and form of worship, as well as to the customs of the people.

Records of the Lagide kings, like those of the Roman emperors, are found blended with the divinities on the bas-reliefs of many Egyptian temples. Here history begins to derive aid from the hieroglyphic records: for the annals of the Lagide dynasty are in many points defective and uncertain, and require the decisive support of public monuments, which those of the Cæsars scarcely needed.

One of the first fruits of the application of the alphabet, says M. Champollion, was the re-establishment upon the *canon* of Egyptian kings of the name of a young prince cruelly punished for the unfortunate lustre of his birth;—the son of the dictator Julius Cæsar and the celebrated Cleopatra, who was the last scion of the royal race of Lagus, and bore the name of Ptolemy-Cæsar. A bilingual *stele* in the Museum of Turin confirms what is known from hieroglyphical inscriptions alone, namely, the reign of Ptolemy-Cæsar under the regency of his mother Cleopatra. These two names are found in conjunction upon the great temple of Denderah, and, M. Champollion remarks, “as they occur there in the oldest dedications, it is not assuming too much to assign the foundation of this magnificent edifice, devoted to the goddess Athyr, or the Egyptian Venus, to a queen so accustomed to disguise her crafty policy beneath the charming seductions and attractions of love.”

The names of the Lagides contemporaneous with this Cleopatra, till Ptolemy Dionysius, her father, are rarely met with upon the great buildings: their reigns were short and troublous. The legends of the two Ptolemys, surnamed Alexander, are found upon the temples of Ombos and Edfou, where there appear dedications in the name of a queen hitherto unknown to history, Berenice, wife of Ptolemy Alexander I., which confirm two demotic contracts in the museum of Turin, dated in the 16th year of the reign of Ptolemy Alexander and Queen Berenice. Two similar MSS. in the Royal Museum of Paris establish the fact that his mother, who was subsequently killed by him, was the regent during his early reign; for they bear date in the fifteenth year of Queen Cleopatra Evergetes Philometor, the mother of Ptolemy Alexander Philometor, then in the twelfth year of his reign. The monument at Edfou also records the name of Ptolemy Soter II., predecessor of Alexander I., and whose ambitious mother caused her name to be inscribed, in public acts, before those of her children, whom she by turns called to and expelled from the throne. This fact is attested by a MS. at Paris, dated in the fourth year

year of the reign of this queen and Ptolemy Soter II. Two other contracts are referable to this period; they are dated in the eighth year of a Ptolemy and a queen Cleopatra, surnamed Tryphæna, whose existence is a new fact in these annals.

The edifices in the Egyptian style referring to the reign of Evergetes II. and his two wives successively, Cleopatra his niece, and Cleopatra his sister, are numerous: they occur at Philæ, Ombos, Edfou, and lastly at Carnac, that monument of Pharaonic magnificence. But the restorations of Evergetes to these latter edifices are easily distinguished by their heavy style from the more ancient sculptures. A long inscription on the grand temple at Philæ records a donation from Evergetes II. to the temple, of a vast tract of cultivated land near Syene, in gratitude for the benefits he declares he had received from his father, the god Osiris, and his mother, the goddess Isis.

The contracts dated in the reign of Philometor are almost as numerous as those of his brother and successor Evergetes II.; the latter confirm the ephemeral reign of the infant, Ptolemy Eupator, son of King Philometor, who was assassinated by his uncle when he seized upon the throne.

Ptolemy Epiphanes, father of the two kings just mentioned, and his queen Cleopatra of Syria, dedicated one of the temples at Philæ to the god Imouth, son of Phtha. To this king also belong various contracts in the museum of Paris, which exhibit the entire protocol of the celebrated inscription of Rosetta, the foundation of all our knowledge respecting the graphic system of ancient Egypt.

The temple of Antæopolis is dated in the reign of Ptolemy Philopater, and Arsinoë, his wife, the mother of Epiphanes: the ancient palaces of Carnac and of Luxor, at Thebes, were then repaired. To his predecessor, Evergetes I., are referred the bas-reliefs of the great triumphal gate, which is admired even amidst the monuments of this ancient capital of Egypt. A curious historical fact connected with this prince we give entire:

Evergetes I. rendered himself celebrated by grand expeditions into Asia and Africa, and by conquests, the pompous enumeration of which has been preserved by the Greek monument of Edulis. This inscription proves that this Ptolemy extended the Egyptian dominion on the south side; and in fact he is the earliest Lagide king whose name is found beyond the first cataract on the monuments of Nubia. It is, amongst other places, read in the sculptures of the temple of Dakka, the ancient Psœcis. But several bas-reliefs of this edifice were executed antecedently to those which discover the name of Evergetes I. and his wife Berenice, she who, associating her vows with the military enterprizes of her husband, was flattered by the Greek astronomers of Alexandria by her tresses being placed amongst the constellations. The pictures, which immediately precede those in which the Lagide monarch appears, represent offerings made to the gods of the temple by a king altogether a stranger to the family of the Ptolemys; yet the style of these sculptures exhibits no marks of a period much more ancient. It is this unknown king, whose hieroglyphic name can only be pronounced *Erkamen*, or *Erkamon*, who dedicated the most ancient sanctuary of the temple to the god Thoth, surnamed Arhnousis, as stated by two inscriptions in sacred characters, wherein this *Erkamen* is invested with the titles of "king, beneficent god, son of the god Chnouphis, born of the goddess Sata, and nursed by the goddess Anoukis,"—the Jupiter, the Juno and the Vesta of the Egyptians, the favourite divinities of all the countries adjacent to the first cataract. All these circumstances together convince us, after mature consideration, that this unknown king is no other than the individual among the monarchs of Ethiopia, who first submitted to the theocratic yoke imposed by the priests upon the sovereigns of that country, and who accomplished this great revolution by an expedient too often employed in African policy,—a general massacre.

Diodorus

Diodorus Siculus, who relates such an event, in fact gives to the king the name of *Ergamenes*, and says positively that this prince, imbued with the literature and philosophy of the Greeks, was contemporary with Ptolemy Philadelphus, father of Evergetes I. It becomes then evident that Nubia, one of the dependencies of the kingdom of Ergamenes, passed under the dominion of the Greek kings of Egypt, through the success of the arms of Evergetes I., whose name was inscribed upon the temple of Dakka immediately after that of the Ethiopian, his predecessor.

The two first Lagide kings of Egypt, Ptolemy Soter I., and Ptolemy Philadelphus, his son, are mentioned on several of the great buildings executed in their reigns. But M. Champollion has retrieved from oblivion, by means of hieroglyphical relics, the names of two Egyptian sovereigns who intervened between the Greek conquest of Egypt and the period when Alexander's general assumed the title and insignia of royalty. One of these princes, who is mentioned in the sculptures of the palace of Carnac and on the portico of Ashmounain, was the brother of Alexander the Great, Philip, better known by historians under the name of Aridæus; the other king, whom Ptolemy suffered to reign after Philip, was Alexander, the son of Alexander the Great and of Roxana, daughter of a Bactrian satrap or king; his name occurs at Elephantine, Carnac, and Luxor, as well as on a leaf of papyrus. He was slain by the ambitious Cassandra; and thus, adds M. Champollion, "the murder of an infant born of a Grecian conqueror and a Persian mother, marked in Egypt the termination of the Persian rule and the commencement of the Greek, in the same manner as, three centuries after, the assassination of the young son of Julius Cæsar and Queen Cleopatra closed the dominion of the Greeks, and introduced that of the Romans."

It is from the era of Alexander the Great upwards, or from the end of the fourth century before Christ, that doubt and disorder pervade the Egyptian annals. The facts mentioned by Greek writers are vague and contradictory; and by the application of the alphabet to monuments of this early period, M. Champollion observes, the hieroglyphic system has been fully confirmed, and a mass of facts and documents altogether unlooked-for has accrued to history. Amongst these, are notices of most of the kings of Egyptian race who contended for forty years against the power of the Persians; viz. the kings Amyrtæus, Nephereus, Achoris, and the two Nectanabes. The name of Darius Ochus, who subjected Egypt to the Persian rule, is not found; but there are monuments which record the reigns of the first successors of Cambyzes. *Kamboth* (Cambyzes) appears on the statue of a Saïte priest in the museum of the Vatican; *Ntarioush* (Darius) is sculptured on the columns of the great temple of El Kharjeh, and on other relics; and several inscriptions exist dated in different years of the reigns of Xerxes (*Khshearsha*) and Artaxerxes (*Artakhsheesh*).

"As it is natural to expect," observes M. Champollion, "the records of the Egyptian dynasties anterior to the Persian conquest, or the end of the sixth century before Christ, are more numerous and more important." All the Saïte family are abundantly mentioned, except the unfortunate Psammenitus. Amongst these are the celebrated Amasis, and his predecessor Apries; Psammetichus II., Nechao II., who took Jerusalem and led King Jehoahaz prisoner into Egypt; Psammetichus I., who composed the civil discords which desolated Egypt after the Ethiopian dominion had ceased.

The yoke of this foreign dynasty was nevertheless not of an oppressive character, owing doubtless to the community of origin, religion, and language between the victors and the vanquished. A direct proof of the gentleness of the Ethiopian conquerors is

to be found in the vast number of monuments which, in Ethiopia as well as in Egypt, bear dedications made in the name of kings who were masters of both countries at the same time; such as Shabak, Savekothph, Tahrak and Amenaso—the *Sabacon*, the *Sevechus*, the *Tharaca*, and the *Ammeris*, mentioned in the sacred volume or by the Greek historians.

The names of three kings of the Tanite family which preceded the Ethiopian invasion, namely Petubastes, Osorthos, and Psammus, are found amongst the ruins of Heliopolis. Those of Bubastes discover records of the Bubastite kings, the predecessors of the Tanites; Sesonchis, head of the family, the vanquisher of Rehoboam and spoiler of the temple of Jerusalem; his son Osorchon, who led an army into Syria; and his successor, Takellothis. Some records exist of the antecedent dynasty, that of the first Tanites, the chief of which, Mandouothph, called by the Greeks Mendes, built the vast palace called the Labyrinth.

The names of the twelve Diospolitan kings who reigned antecedently to the last named, still exist upon the temples and palaces of Egypt; but as neither Manetho, nor any other historian, has given the entire series of these princes, their succession can only be established by an accurate study of the monuments whereon their names occur. The head of this family was Rhampsinit, in which M. Champollion recognizes evident traces of the name of Ramses, borne by the princes of the previous Diospolitan dynasty (the nineteenth), who were six in number, and of whom Ramses XI. was contemporary with the Trojan war. His name appears at Carnac; that of his predecessor, Ramses X., surnamed Ammenemes, on papyri; the tomb of Ramses IX. is at Biban-el-Moluk; his predecessor, Ramses VIII., surnamed Amenothph, occurs in a papyrus, and on a statue in the British Museum; Ramses VII. is met with at Thebes, Carnac, and Elephantine; “lastly, Egypt and Nubia contain very few remarkable buildings, from the Mediterranean to the second cataract, the decorations of which do not record the reign of the chief of this dynasty, Ramses VI., better known in the west under the various names of Rhamses, Sethos, Sesosis, and Sesostris.”

It is in illustrating the history of this monarch, who lived in the fifteenth century before Christ, and that of the great Diospolitan kings who preceded him, that Egyptian antiquities possess their greatest value. History, properly so called, is here mute; but its silence can now be supplied by the authentic testimony of temples, palaces, tombs, colossi, obelisks, and, lastly, by original public documents, which, although “written upon frail pellicles of the papyrus, have withstood more than thirty centuries.”

The application of the hieroglyphical alphabet has discovered that the most ancient edifices of Thebes and Egypt generally are to be ascribed to the kings of this dynasty, which is the eighteenth; that princes, whose existence had been treated as fabulous, really lived; and that Egypt was at its highest pitch of splendour when the history of other nations is darkened by fable. M. Champollion enumerates a variety of great works executed by Ramses V., surnamed Amenophis, the father of Sesostris; by Ramses IV., surnamed Mei-Amoun, the grandfather of that conqueror; by Ramses III. and Ramses II.; by Mandouei and Ousirei, brothers, their predecessors; the latter of whom is immortalized by the superb tomb discovered by Belzoni, and by the alabaster sarcophagus now in England; by Ramses I., Queen Achenchères, her father, King Horus, Amenophis II., Thoutmosis IV., Amenophis I., Thoutmosis III., denominated Meri (the Mæris of the Greeks), who built the great Sphinx; his mother, Queen Amenses, who dedicated the largest of the obelisks

obelisks of Carnac to the memory of her father, Thoutmosis II. A colossus of Thoutmosis I., the father of this prince, is in the museum of Turin. The chief of this illustrious Theban family, Amenothph, is recorded in a multitude of religious inscriptions, in which this Pharaoh is exalted to an equality with the gods, as the deliverer of Egypt from the long tyranny of the Scythian barbarians. Other Egyptian monuments bear the dates of the reigns of the Diospolitan kings anterior to Amenothph, who were in perpetual conflict with the barbarians.

It is at the date of the invasion of these barbarians, *i. e.* about the year 2082 before Christ, that the series, so continuous, of the historical records of Egypt is on a sudden interrupted and arrested: some small remains of architecture, which furnish legends of a Pharaoh Mandouei, who appears to be the Osymandias of Diodorus Siculus, alone subsist to attest the advanced state of civilization in Egypt at the period immediately preceding the arrival of these devastating hordes of barbarians. The annalist of Egypt, Manetho, who affirms that the Hykshos totally destroyed the temples, palaces, and every kind of edifices which they found upon the face of Egypt, deprives us of all hope of recovering, in the wrecks scattered upon each bank of the Nile, any positive documents respecting the historical period antecedent to the Shepherds. The monuments whose imposing masses we still admire, are all posterior to this epoch.

M. Champollion, however, congratulates us on recovering the annals of fifteen centuries, and facts demonstrative of the reigns of nearly all the princes who lived during more than twenty-two consecutive centuries. Hitherto, indeed, there is a void which it is important should be filled: the records yet decyphered contain little or nothing in regard to the domestic details of the princes and to national manners. But this chasm may be amply replenished, according to M. Champollion. The great edifices of Egypt contain in all their details the entire history of the most celebrated of the Pharaohs, which they were not afraid of beholding depicted upon the walls of their palaces.

But it is not to history alone that a voyage to Egypt would furnish light, vainly sought elsewhere than amongst the palaces of Thebes; it is there we may find accurate, desirable, and unlooked-for notices of all those nations which, from the earliest periods of the civilization of mankind, played an important part in Africa and Western Asia. The principal expeditions of the Pharaohs against such nations as were able to dispute power with Egypt, or inspire it with apprehension, are sculptured upon the monuments erected by the victors; there we read the names of the people, the number of the soldiers, the names of the besieged cities, of the rivers traversed, of the countries subdued; the quota of tribute imposed upon the vanquished, and the names of the principal articles of value taken from the enemy, are engraven upon the pictures which these trophies of victory bear. These bas-reliefs, blended with long explanatory inscriptions, become the more curious to us, from the circumstance of the Egyptian artists having expressed, with such admirable fidelity, the physiognomy, the costume, and all the habitudes of the foreign people against whom they had to combat. In short, we may learn, by studying this immense historical gallery, what nations were powerful enough, at periods when history is mute, to place the power of the Pharaohs in jeopardy, by disputing with Egypt the empire of that ancient world which we can only glance at through doubt and uncertainty.

M. Champollion intimates his intention of undertaking "*un voyage littéraire*" to Egypt himself, under the royal auspices. We should rejoice at its accomplishment, and should hail his return, loaded with historical treasures, gained without mutilating and despoiling the monuments of Egypt, with sincere delight.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

(From Papers ordered to be printed 21st May 1827.)

Abstract of the Net Revenues of the Colony in 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824, shewing the Sources from whence they are derived.

	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.
	Rds.	Rds.	Rds.	Rds.
Loan Bank	120,019	133,331	141,800	142,376
Customs	313,198	336,940	290,091	292,805
Transfer duty, tithes, and licences for retailing wine.....	290,130	398,655	314,020	373,014
Duty on public sales	208,346	169,157	166,996	148,658
Land revenues	178,572	98,979	97,490	102,278
Stamp-duty	150,929	145,953	148,568	154,059
Insolvent Estates Chamber	31,794	41,614	42,710	50,602
Printing-office	20,024	22,013	20,495	17,347
Port dues	13,443	14,337	13,854	12,790
Postage	22,197	26,080	26,846	27,490
Fines	3,041	50	966	566
Wine-taster	12,124	18,715	18,383	19,233
Fees of office	90,517	83,873	86,821	84,068
Caffre commando-tax	7,000	57,990	72,000	64,520
Proceeds of articles sold	2,660	—	709	150
Sums refunded	4,741	—	69,111	109,446
Fees on comm. in Cape Corps.....	—	—	—	214
Loan contracted	—	—	110,000	—
Total.....Rix-dollars...	1,468,740	1,549,403	1,620,866	1,599,624

Abstract of the Net Expenditure of the Colony in 1821, 1822, 1823, and 1824.

	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.
	R. Ds.	R. Ds.	R. Ds.	R. Ds.
Ordinary	1,031,633	1,043,526	1,236,201	1,331,436
Extraordinary	357,178	384,034	315,142	331,150
Total.....Rix-dollars...	1,388,811	1,427,560	1,551,343	1,662,586

Statement of Expenses incurred by the Colonial Government for the Erection of Schools, and for Annual Teachers, &c.

	Ordinaries.	Fixed.	Unfixed.	Total.
	Rds.	Rds.	Rds.	Rds.
In 1822.....	2,719	1,131	708	4,559
1823.....	7,928	2,351	2,589	12,869
1824.....	10,210	3,332	79	13,612

Account of the Quantity of Lac Lake, Lac Dye, and Cake Lac imported into Great Britain from the East-Indies in the last Thirteen Years; also the Quantities re-exported, charged with Duty for Home Consumption during the same period.—(28th May 1827.)

Years.	Imported.	Re-exported.	Paid Duty.	Years.	Imported.	Re-exported.	Paid Duty.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1814 ...	278,899	5,017	133,935	1821 ...	641,755	91,925	322,837
1815 ...	598,592	8,441	137,915	1822 ...	872,967	29,578	349,351
1816 ...	269,373	27,412	162,894	1823 ...	534,220	13,050	414,714
1817 ...	384,909	23,091	234,763	1824 ...	604,264	53,843	485,339
1818 ...	242,572	32,079	323,169	1825 ...	541,443	61,908	385,734
1819 ...	179,511	21,707	207,063	1826 ...	760,729	68,603	395,609
1820 ...	441,486	49,519	912,514				

College Examination.

COLLEGE OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

THE Governor in Council is pleased to publish for general information the following extracts from the report of the Board for the College of Fort St. George and for Public Instruction, on the last general examination held there.

“ Mr. Maitland, the gentleman who stands first in the Telooogo class, succeeded in translating the most difficult paper from that language into English with very great success and accuracy; and his translation into Telooogo, though it contains one or two expressions which severe criticism might deem objectionable, is idiomatic and perfectly intelligible throughout, evincing a well-grounded knowledge of the structure of the language and a great command of words. He speaks the language fluently and remarkably well, and explained off hand with facility a letter addressed by one native to another. Mr. Maitland has advanced considerably in his acquaintance with Tamil since the last general examination, and his knowledge of it is highly creditable to him. His translation from Tamil was extremely good, and his rendering into that language of an English paper of ordinary difficulty was, with the exception of two short passages, quite intelligible. He spoke with tolerable fluency, and shewed himself to be well acquainted with the style of official papers.

“ On the 15th September last we reported to Government the great improvement made by Mr. Thomas in Tamil, since the last general examination, observing at the same time he had evinced an acquaintance with works written in the best style, and we then recommended that, from his proficiency in Tamil and Telooogo, he might be permitted to receive the highest college allowances. This gentleman's translation from Tamil at the late general examination was executed with great correctness. His exercise from English into that language was of such difficulty as, if correctly translated, would prove his having not only a good, but extensive acquaintance with the structure of the language, and it is satisfactory to observe, that his performance evinces that he has bestowed a laudable degree of attention on the acquirement of Tamil. His mode of expression is circuitous, but, with the exception of one passage, his translation was intelligible to natives unacquainted with English, although omissions have been made in rendering the English fully

into Tamil. He read a Cutcherry paper with considerable ease, and carried on a conversation with great readiness. In Telooogo, Mr. Thomas translated the same paper as Mr. Maitland, but not with equal success, as there were several words with the meaning of which he was unacquainted, and one whole passage has been omitted by him. His translation into the language is a very creditable performance, as he has, with the exception of two passages, rendered the sense of the original quite intelligibly, and in very good and idiomatic terms. He speaks the language well, and read, and, with a little assistance, explained the meaning of the same native letter which was given to Mr. Maitland.

“ Mr. Wilmot was admitted into the college on the 5th July. On the 25th August he was examined in Mahratta, which he had selected for study as his first language, and acquitted himself in the most creditable manner. On this occasion he obtained the first increase of allowance. After an interval of only two months he was again examined in Mahratta and also in Hindoostanee, and we had the pleasure of reporting that his attainments in these languages were fully sufficient to entitle him to the highest rate of allowance, which was accordingly granted to him. In the short period which has since elapsed, Mr. Wilmot has considerably extended his knowledge of Mahratta. This is proved particularly by his translation of a difficult passage from English into Mahratta, which is executed in a very satisfactory manner. Some words are omitted in the Mahratta version, and it contains a few errors; but for the most part it conveys accurately the sense of the original, so as to be perfectly intelligible to natives, and some of the sentences are composed in a very good style. Mr. Wilmot has not succeeded so well in his exercise from Mahratta into English. It is to be observed, however, that the passage given to him for translation was particularly difficult from the idiomatic style of its construction. Mr. Wilmot speaks the language with sufficient fluency and correctness. He read some easy Cutcherry papers and explained their purport without hesitation. In Hindoostanee, Mr. Wilmot has attained a distinguished proficiency, and stands at the head of the list of students in that language. His translation into English contained very few errors, and none of any importance. His Hindoostanee

doostanee paper, if not quite so idiomatic as those of Mr. Porter and Mr. Hall, indicates a more extensive knowledge of words; and is, throughout, true to the sense of the original, and grammatically correct. He read a story off hand with perfect ease; and, with one or two slight errors, explained it accurately. He converses with fluency and propriety; excelling, in this respect, all the other Hindoostanee students.

"The great progress exhibited by Mr. Porter, at the general examination in June, was so highly creditable to him, that we expressed to Government our anticipation of his holding a distinguished place in our next report; and the manner in which he has now acquitted himself, even under all the disadvantage of his studies having being interrupted by a long and severe illness, affords a conviction that under other circumstances he would have fully realized the expectations which had been formed of his future proficiency. With the exception of one passage, which none of the gentlemen who translated the same paper have been able to render properly, and of two or three words not material to the general sense of the story, his translation from the Tamil is correct, and shews that he was aware not only of the literal English of the words, but also of their appropriate use in the places where they occurred. Mr. Porter as well as Mr. Maitland chose the second paper in English, in translating which into Tamil he has shewn his acquaintance with the grammar and general knowledge of the idiom of that language, although some of the niceties of construction have not been sufficiently observed. In speaking Tamil this gentleman has improved; but in this branch of acquirement, as well as in reading Cutcherry papers, he requires practice. In Hindoostanee Mr. Porter is ranked next Mr. Wilmot, to whom he is little inferior. His translation into English is not so correct as that gentleman's. The errors, however, do not affect the general sense, and arise, not from a less perfect knowledge of the structure of the language, but from a less extensive acquaintance with its terms. His Hindoostanee exercise is faithfully executed, and shews that he is extremely well versed in the grammar and idiom. He read and translated with great facility and correctness the same story that was given to Mr. Wilmot. He was almost equally successful in reading and explaining a difficult urzee. His pronunciation was very good, and his colloquial use of the language inferior only to Mr. Wilmot's.

"Taking into consideration the short period which has elapsed since Mr. Hall joined the institution, his merits are not inferior to those of any of the gentlemen

whose names are above his, nor is his proficiency to be estimated by the place he holds relatively to those gentlemen; on the contrary, his being but little below Mr. Maitland and Mr. Porter in Tamil, when they have been so successful, is very creditable to his talents and power of application. He has like the others failed in translating one passage of the Tamil paper, but the rest of it is so well rendered, that the little difference there appears to be, in two or three places of minor importance, from what the translation might more correctly have been, need not be particularized. Mr. Hall took for his exercise into Tamil the most difficult English paper, which was evidently too difficult for him to translate correctly, and he would perhaps have shewn his actual proficiency better had he, like Mr. Maitland and Mr. Porter, taken the easier paper. His translation is not very correct and is occasionally obscure, but a close examination of it proves his being generally acquainted with the construction of the language. He evinced considerable readiness in conversation, and in this part of the examination he shewed more than in his translation into Tamil his knowledge of the grammar and an aptness at the construction of sentences. He read a Cutcherry paper tolerably well, and has throughout given an earnest of future distinction. In Hindoostanee, Mr. Hall is third. His version into that language contained one or two grammatical errors, but displays a good acquaintance with the idiom. His translation into English exhibited no errors of any consequence. It is very nearly as good as Mr. Porter's, and the same remarks apply to both. Mr. Hall converses correctly, but in this part of the examination, as well as in reading and translating off hand, although he acquitted himself very creditably, he did not display quite the same readiness as Mr. Wilmot and Mr. Porter.

"Mr. Ogilvie and Mr. Montgomery are very nearly on a par in their acquirements in Telooogo. They both selected the paper in that language given to the gentlemen who precede them in the Telooogo class, and were equally successful in translating the first part of it: but in the latter part of their exercises several omissions and errors are discernible. Their translations into Telooogo, though neither complete nor free from errors, shew them to possess a good stock of words, and a respectable knowledge of the idiom and construction of the language. They both read and explained off hand an easy urzee, and speak the language with tolerable fluency, though both in this respect will be improved by further practice.

"Mr. Ogilvie's translation from Carnataca

nataka into English is a very creditable performance; one or two words were unknown to him, and he has made one trifling mistake: with these exceptions the entire translation is correct. Of the English exercise he only translated part into Carnataka; but the portion that he has done is very fairly executed. He is not much practised in speaking, but understands every thing that is addressed to him in conversation.

“Mr. Montgomery is fourth in Hindoostanee. He selected for translation into that language the paper which was given to the gentlemen who are ranked above him. He has failed to express the meaning of two passages, and there are two or three errors in grammar, and several in orthography. His translation into English is nearly on a par with Mr. Hall's. He read and explained an urzee with little hesitation, and conversed not only with tolerable fluency, but with propriety and correct pronunciation.

“Considering the very short period Mr. Anderson has been attached to the college, the rapid progress he has made in his studies reflects great credit on his talents and industry, and entitles him to marked commendation. In Teloo-goo, his first language, he is but little inferior to Mr. Ogilvie and Mr. Montgomery, for although the paper translated by him is less difficult than that given to those gentlemen, he has succeeded in rendering the whole into English, and, with exception of two short passages, with perfect correctness. He has likewise been successful in translating the whole of the English paper into Teloo-goo, but the version in some places is not quite intelligible, and contains several errors, principally in orthography. In speaking he is not so fluent as the gentlemen who precede him, but he understands all that is said to him, speaks very intelligibly, and read off hand and explained quite correctly the same easy urzee that was given to them. In Sanscrit, Mr. Anderson's answers, to a great many questions in grammar, were very satisfactory. He translated an easy story from Sanscrit into English nearly without a fault, and although not so successful with one of greater difficulty, his translation, in which were several mistakes and omissions, was perfectly intelligible as a whole. He rendered into English with perfect ease to himself two passages of moderate difficulty, the one in the Hitopadesa, and the other in the second chapter of Menu, with the commentary, indiscriminately selected, which proves the extent of his reading and knowledge of the language, which is very considerable.

“We have no hesitation in stating, that the four gentlemen of whose qualifications we have last treated; viz. Mr.

Hall, Mr. Ogilvie, Mr. Montgomery, and Mr. Anderson, are fully entitled to the highest college allowance, which we have accordingly great pleasure in recommending may be granted to them.

“It affords us equal pleasure to notice the rapid advancement made by Mr. Cathcart, who was admitted into the institution only on the 23d September last, when the proficiency he had made in Tamil on his voyage from England was rewarded by a recommendation, with which Government was pleased to comply, that he might be allowed the first increase of allowance. The Tamil paper translated by Mr. Cathcart was of less difficult construction than that given to the gentleman above him. The exercise is well performed, and proves his having a considerable stock of words, and a ready apprehension of the general structure of sentences. He translated the easier English paper, and although there are omissions in it, the rendering of what he has done is extremely clear. The sentences are, however, much more concise than they would have been written by a native, still the idiom has been well attended to; considering that Mr. Cathcart has had an opportunity of preparing for the colloquial part of the examination for a period of only two months and a half, his progress in this respect is as creditable as in the other parts of his examination. Mr. Cathcart is sixth among the Hindoostanee students, and his progress during the short period that he has been attached to the college does great credit to his talents and industry. His translation into Hindoostanee of a paper, somewhat easier than that which was given to the four gentlemen who are ranked above him in that language, although obscure in some places, shewed a good knowledge of the grammar, and a respectable acquaintance with the idiom. The story which he selected for translation into English was the one executed by the gentlemen who are classed above him, and the manner in which it was performed proves that he is very well grounded in the language, the errors not being such as to affect the general sense, but consisting chiefly in the omission to render particular words not of very common occurrence: he has an excellent knowledge of the grammar. He read an urzee off hand, translated it correctly, with the exception of one or two words not in frequent use. In speaking he wants further practice; but he expresses himself correctly and intelligibly, and understands all that is said to him.

“It appears that the state of Mr. Dummergue's health has, during the last few months, as before, prevented his applying for any length of time to the acquirement of Tamil. In Hindoostanee how-
ever

ever we are happy to state that Mr. Dumergue has made considerable progress since the last examination.

“Mr. Arbuthnot's translation from Tamil on the whole exhibits a greater acquaintance with the structure of the language than Mr. Dumergue's, but in the oral part of the examination Mr. Dumergue had the superiority. Mr. Arbuthnot, who is seventh in the Hindoostance class, translated into that language the paper which was given to Mr. Cathcart and Mr. Dumergue. His version is in some places obscure, and the expressions not quite idiomatic; but it is very correct in point of grammar and orthography, and evinces a habit of accurate study, which is the surest road to excellence. His translation from Hindoostance conveys the general meaning, and fails only in some places from his ignorance of particular words. He made out the greater part of the urzee which was put into his hands. He does not speak very correctly, but understands generally what is said to him, and is only now and then at a loss for a word. His pronunciation is particularly good.

“Mr. Bruere has made very laudable progress in Telooگو during the short period he has been attached to the college. He is well versed in the less ab-

struse parts of the grammar, and succeeded in rendering the full sense of an easy story. He has satisfactorily entitled himself to the first increase of allowance.

“We on the whole consider the progress Mr. Lockhart has made in the two languages he has studied, during the short time he has been in the country, to be praiseworthy, and to entitle him to the first increase of allowance, which we beg to suggest should be granted to him.

“We consider the progress made by Mr. Macdonald, notwithstanding the disadvantages we have mentioned, sufficient to render him deserving of the first increase of allowance, which we recommend should be granted to him.

“It only remains for us to state, that we consider Mr. Maitland to be eminently qualified to transact public business, and by his distinguished proficiency in Telooگو and very good knowledge of Tamil, to have satisfactorily established his claim to the honorary reward of Rupees 3,500 on leaving the college, which we accordingly beg to recommend may be granted to him.

“Published by order of the Hon. the Governor in Council.

“E. BANNERMAN, Act. Sec. to Govt.

“Fort St. George, 19th Jan. 1827.”

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

LONDON.

Shigurf Namah-i-Velaft, or Excellent Intelligence concerning Europe, being the Travels of Shaikh Iteaa Modeen, Moonashee, in Great Britain and France. Translated from the original Persian Manuscript into Hindoostanee. With an English Version and Notes. By J. E. Alexander, Lieut.; late H.M.'s 13th Light Dragoons. 8vo. 18s.

The Life of Napoleon Buonaparte, Emperor of the French, with a Preliminary View of the French Revolution. By the Author of “Waverley,” &c. 9 vols. post 8vo. £4. 14s. 6d.

A View in the Island of Ceylon, exhibiting that celebrated Palm, the Talpat Tree, in various stages of growth, from a Drawing by W. Daniell, Esq. Coloured, £1. 1s.

Letters from New South Wales, written in 1826. By P. Cunningham, Esq., R.N. 2 vols. small 8vo.

In the Press, or preparing for Publication.

Researches into the Origin and Affinity of the principal Languages of Asia and Europe. By Lieut. Col. Vans Kennedy, of the Bombay Military Establishment. 4to.

An Inquiry into the Structure and Affinity of the Greek and Latin Languages, with occasional Comparisons of the Sanscrit and Gothic; and an Appendix in which the Derivation of the Sanscrit from the Greek is endeavoured to be established. By G. Dunbar, F.R.S.E. 8vo.

A Map, illustrating the Travels of the Apostle Paul, as recorded in the New Testament, and adapted to the Theories of the most eminent Critics. By Mr. Arrowsmith.

A Portrait of Sir T. Stamford Raffles, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., late Lieut. Governor of Java, Ben- coolen, and Singapore; Founder and First President of the Zoological Society. The Portrait to be engraved upon steel by S. Cousins, after a drawing by H. Corbould.

MADRAS.

The Tales of Viamarka, in Telugu, compiled and corrected by Ravipati Guru murli, deputy

Telugu Master at the College of Fort St. George. 4to. 2 rs. 12 a.

The Sadur Agaradi, a Dictionary of the higher, explained in the lower Tamil dialect. This work consists of four parts: the 1st, Peyer, shews the several meanings of every word; the 2d, Poral, the several words bearing the same meaning; the 3d, Togel, shews the subordinate species of the technical and general terms of science and literature; and the 4th, Todel, is a rhyming dictionary. Folio. 6 rs. 4 a.

The Utra Caudum of the Ramayana of Valmici, translated from the Sanscrit into Tamil, by Sidambala Vadiar, late head Tamil master at the College of Fort St. George. 4to. 2 rs. 12 a.

Furats-i Irtaceeah, a Treatise on the Mahomedan Law of Inheritance, in the Arabic language, by Maulavi Mohummud Irtaza Ali Khan Bahadur, Moofte of the Court of Sudr and Foujdaree Adawlut. Folio. 4 rs. 2 a.

In the Press.

A Familiar Treatise on Tamil Grammar, by way of Question and Answer. By Tandavaraya Vadiar, head Tamil master at the College of Fort St. George.

A Dictionary, English and Carnataca. By the Rev. W. Reeve. 4to.

Specimens of a Translation of the Cural, or Moral Apophthegms of Tiruvalluva Nayanar, with a Grammatical Analysis, and Notes illustrative of the peculiar Opinions and Customs of the Hindus and Specimens of compositions of several Tamil Poets. By the late F. W. Ellis, Esq., of the Madras Civil Service, and Senior Member of the College of Fort St. George. 4to.

A Translation into Tamil, from the Sanscrit, of the *Vishnuh Chudam* of Ritumitachara, by the late Pottar Vadiar, completed and revised by his brother Sidumbala Vadiar, late head Tamil master at the College of Fort St. George.

Vulgaris Tamilica Lingua Dictionarium. Auctore P. Constantio Josepho Beschio, e Societate Jesu in regione Madurensi apud Indos Orientales Missionario. Folio.

The Panchatantra Stories in Tamil.—Corrected edition.

VARIETIES.

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL SOCIETY OF CALCUTTA.

A meeting of this Society was held on the 3d February, the president, A. Gibb, Esq., in the chair. A letter was read from the Committee of Correspondence of the Royal Asiatic Society, and the following communications were laid on the table: a paper on hydrophobia, by Dr. Butter, and one on enlarged spleen, by Mr. Twining, and a translation of a native pharmaceutical work, by Mr. Henderson.

The attention of the Society was then directed to an essay on public health in India, by Dr. Ranken, applying especially to the choice of situations for the establishment of civil stations and military cantonments. The greater part of the diseases that prevail in India are ascribed by Dr. Ranken, not so much to the extreme heat or atmospherical vicissitudes, as to the presence of noxious impregnations in the air, exhaled during the decay of vegetable and animal matter. In proportion as these around situations will be unhealthy, and salubrity of site will be found to depend upon exemption from their influence.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*]

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

At a meeting of this Society, held on the 16th May, the secretary read a paper by Mr. Sharon Turner, on the resemblances discoverable between the Anglo-Saxon and Persian languages.

The most probable derivation of the Saxons which has been suggested, is from the *Sacaisunii*, or *Sacassani*, a people mentioned by Pliny and Strabo, as originally inhabiting the regions of Persia about the Caspian Sea. In support of this derivation, it has been observed, that several words in the present language of Persia nearly resemble those of the same signification in Saxon: of such resemblances five remarkable instances are adduced by Camden, from Jos. Scaliger.

This hint has given rise to the present attempt to ascertain, by a comparison of the two languages, whether such a number of coincidences are discoverable as materially to confirm the belief that Persia was originally the country of our Saxon progenitors. Although, supposing that belief well-founded, the total separation of the two nations for at least 2,000 years, the progressive migration of the Saxons along the north of Asia, and through the whole breadth of the upper surface of Europe, together with the numerous vicissitudes which have befallen them,—must have tended greatly to obliterate the marks of original similitude be-

tween their respective languages;—yet the result of the comparison made by the writer, during a very brief period of leisure which he was able to devote to this object, has been the discovery of 162 Persian words which have a direct affinity with as many Anglo-Saxon terms of the same meaning. He has likewise added a list of fifty-seven similar resemblances between the latter tongue and the *Zend*, or ancient Persian; and a third, consisting of forty-three coincidences of it with the *Pehlevi*, an intermediate language, used in Persia, between the modern Persian and the *Zend*.

It is Mr. Turner's opinion, that a more elaborate investigation of these analogies would further confirm the Asiatic derivation of the Saxons.

NAUTICAL INTELLIGENCE—COAST OF AVA.

Remarks on the coast of Ava from Thaygin, or Pagoda Point, to the Calventuras: to accompany the survey carried on in the Hon. Company's armed brigs *Sophia* and *Freak*, by order of Commodore Hayes, commanding the flotilla, coast of Aracan.*

Thaygin or Pagoda Point forms the S.W. extremity of the coast of Ava; off this point, but attached to the main by sand and rocks, there is a small rocky islet about twenty feet above the surface of the sea, and on its top there is erected a small pagoda. The large pagoda is situated 400 yards to the N.W. by N. of the small one; it is built on the brow of a brown hill, having a path leading up to it, and near which, on the northern side, there is a tank of fresh water of indifferent quality. This hill is not so high as those contiguous which extend in ridges from this point to the northward from three to six miles inland; these ranges are very irregular and broken, and are of various altitudes. These hills are clothed with a low but thick jungle; near the margin of the sea there is another range of irregular hills, and at the bottom of the bays there are high red earth and white sandy cliffs; all the projecting points are cliff; excepting the two abreast the Calventuras, which are low and sandy.

From Pagoda Point to Cape Negrais the land forms into three curvatures; and on the beach, more than half way towards the cape, there are several cliffs of red earth; the south side of the cape forms into a small sandy bay. Cape Negrais is a bold

* We are indebted for this communication to Capt. Horsburgh, hydrographer to the E. I. Company.

a bold head-land, easily known by a number of small high rocks on its north side, one of which is very remarkable, called the Needle Rock. From this cape to the Brother Hills the coast forms a small bay with two slight projecting points in it; on the south side of the Brothers there is a high ridge of brown cliffs. The Brothers are two hills of similar shape and height, situated on a projecting sandy point of land, and from a distance they appear like two round islands when described either from the north or south. On the north side of the Brothers there are several high sandy cliffs. From this point to Round Cape the coast forms into little bays; the projecting points are round brown hills with rocks off them to about a quarter of a mile distance. On the south side of Round Cape there are more high sand cliffs; and about half-way between the Brothers and Round Cape, two miles inland, there is a high conical hill, which appears to be the highest mountain on this part of the coast. From Round Cape to Peak Hill there is a fine sandy bay, belted with jungle; a little to the northward of Peak Hill there is another projecting point, on which there is a brown hill similar in shape and height to Peak Hill; off this part of the coast there is a cluster of barren rocky islets, called the Sain bain Kieu or Buffaloe Rocks; they are of different magnitudes and heights; the highest is not above fifty feet above the surface of the water, their sides are steep and craggy. The South Buffaloe is very conspicuous when described from seaward; its face is white, which is very bright when the sun shines upon it; the southern cluster are five in number, and about three-quarters of a mile in extent. The Pillar Rock; its form is like a large shaft of equal breadth and about thirty feet high. The Perforated Islet is about thirty-five feet in height, and is the largest of the Buffaloes; on this islet are the edible birds'-nests collected in the fissures and excavations in the rocks. The North Buffaloe is a small black rock a little above high water-mark. These islets are annually farmed out for 6,000 to 7,000 rupees by the civil authorities at Bassain.

On the north side of Brown Hill is Naingchune Creek, which is narrow and very shallow, the entrance is choked with rocks and sand. This creek, like all the creeks on this coast, is situated on the southern side of a sandy bay. From Brown Hill the mountains inland take a more regular appearance, increasing in their altitudes.

To the northward and westward of Naingchune are situated three islands, lying a little to the northward of the Buffaloes; Lychune or South Island is half a mile in length but narrow and moderately high; a rocky spit runs off its

north end. On its western beach there is a remarkable high rock resembling a boat under sail. The second island is called Oongchune or Coconut Island, it is three-quarters of a mile long north and south, and is higher than the other two islands. The third island is called May-gaum-goun or Turtle Island, and is of a circular form, surrounded with rocks; at the western side of this island there is a very remarkable table rock on the centre of a ledge of dry rocks extending from the island. These islands are hilly with singular excavations and caves in them, they are covered with jungle and coconut trees bearing fruit. Turtle of a very large size and of a superior quality are to be procured in great numbers on the sandy beaches surrounding these islands. On the middle and largest island I dug for fresh water without success, nor could I procure any in the creeks or along the coast to the northward of Pagoda Point.

Round Cape forms the northern extremity of a fine sandy bay; here I observed inhabitants and some cultivation, but the surf run too high to permit me to land without injuring the boats. This cape is to the north of Naingchune Creek, and the coast between them is lined with rugged rocks and breakers; the bays are of no depth, and the projecting points are high and circular.

Coringé or Quoin Island is long and narrow, forming in a sharp point to the northward; the eastern face of this island is a high mountain making into three peaks. This island is very craggy and partly covered with jungle and vegetation. In the cleft of a rock on the east side, near the north point, in a small sandy bay, there is a spring of fresh water, where about 100 gallons might daily be collected. On this island were seen the dung of elephants, buffaloes and deer. The island lies about one mile off the land; but the channel is narrow, on account of an extensive sand extending towards it from the main. To the N.E. of Quoin Island there is a bay, about four miles in depth, studded with islets and rocky reefs; from hence to the northward the mountains have a more regular appearance and are of greater elevation. Along the border of the sea there is a small range of hills from the northern part of this bay to Broken Point, running occasionally into bluff points; all these projections are surrounded with rocks above and under the surface of the water; the other parts, forming into small bays, appear to be clear of rocks.

Abreast of Round Island there are two insignificant creeks; the southern one is called Muggechune, and the northern one Choungae. The margin of these creeks are belted with jungle; up these creeks we could not find any fresh water
nor

nor did we see any people, although, on a sandy point at the northern creek, we found a deserted village in ruins.

At Boumee Keoune we descried several inhabitants and two canoes. The village is built near the sea on the southern bank of a small creek.

On this coast I did not observe above four canoes, and they were of a very small description without sails. The few inhabitants I saw were wretchedly clad and miserably poor. The country appeared to be much neglected in cultivation.

Hingie Chune or Negrals Island is three miles inside of Pagoda Point; it is four miles long N.E. and S.W., and two miles and a half on its southern face, which is circular. This island forms an angular point to the northward. The S.W. side has a sandy beach of about 200 yards in breadth. This island is divided by a creek not navigable for small boats, a deep belt of jungle lines the banks of this creek. The southern part of this island is low and well cultivated; on the S.W. angle of the island are the remains of the old English factory, near which there is a square stockade. The eastern face of this island is a very high perpendicular but narrow mountain, which may be descried at a long distance from sea; on the north point of this mountain there is a large pagoda. This mountain is covered with a dwarf jungle, and is inhabited by wild hogs, jungle fowls, and peacocks. On this island there are three paltry villages. The inhabitants are employed in fishing and making balachong and salt, both articles of trade in great demand up the country. Fresh water is procured from wells on the northern part of the island; the northern point of this island is covered with shingle; off this point, to the northward and eastward, ships can find shelter in heavy blowing weather. This island has great advantages for trade as it is at the entrance of the Bassain river, which is navigable for small ships ninety miles inland; it commands the whole of the Bassain district, and could easily be defended against a powerful enemy. As a naval station it is one of the most commanding and finest on the coast. The climate may be considered as salubrious, for the Hon. Company's cruiser *Mercury* and the resident's guard on shore at Bassain remained there for fourteen months without one casualty. Live stock is procurable in abundance from the adjacent country. The whole of the country, from the entrance into the Bassain river up to the city, is intersected with deep channels, forming sunderbunds; the land is low and cultivated on both sides. Half-way between Hingiechune and Bassain there is a river leading into the Irrawaddy and

to Rangoon, said to have sufficient water in it for commissary sloops.

Iychune or Diamond Island is moderately high and well covered with jungle; its sides are about half a mile square. Round this island there is a deep bed of sand, and belted by a ledge of rocks which is dry to a considerable distance from the beach at low water. On the sand turtle are caught, and their eggs collected by the fishermen for the tables of the rich at Bassain. I was informed that two men constantly reside on this island all the year for the above purpose. Boats can only approach this island from the northward, and they ground at low water.

Sailing Directions.—The Little Pagoda is in latitude $16^{\circ} 56' 36''$ N. and longitude $94^{\circ} 16' 45''$ E.; a sandy flat extends off this point one mile and a half to the southward, and to the westward two miles and a half, but has over it from three to four fathoms and a half water. To enter the western channel leading to Negrals Harbour, which is not more than half a mile broad, bring the Great Pagoda N.E. by N., then haul up for the Little Pagoda, until it bears W.N.W.; do not approach the rock nearer than half a mile, as otherwise you may get into strong eddies and drift into broken ground near the point. The tides here are very rapid; during the springs there is a heavy race breaking all round the point, across the channel, and towards Diamond Island. After passing the Little Pagoda with a leading wind, keep at the distance of about a quarter of a mile from the shore; and if a beating wind, the lead briskly going must be your guide; the deep water is in mid-channel, and the moment you begin to decrease the soundings go about, particularly so towards the flat, extending two miles to the southward of Hingie Island, with three and a half and three fathoms water all round the outer edge of the sand, and two fathoms on its centre, until you come near the breakers which are steep to; the south point of the island will bear east from the breakers; here the channel narrows to about four-tenths of a mile. The widest part after passing the point is not more than a large half mile. Care must be taken in passing the rocky points not to approach them too near, on account of sunken rocks extending off them nearly one cable's length. The widest channel for small vessels, not drawing more than fourteen or fifteen feet water, is to the eastward of the island; but the lead ought to be likewise kept briskly going. In proceeding through this channel you may probably pass over a small rocky bank with two fathoms and three-quarters on it
at

* This ought no doubt to be $15^{\circ} 56' 36''$ N.—*James Horsburgh.*

at low water; from its centre the eastern part of Hingie Island, forming a point of jungle, will bear N. 33° E., and the Little Pagoda W. 25° N.; after passing over this bank you then will have four and a half to five fathoms soft. If you keep the Little Pagoda from W. by N. to W. N. W. Wly. you will pass between the sand off the island and this bank. When the eastern point of the jungle on the island bears N. N. E. you can then haul up to the northward; if with a contrary wind tack on each side when you begin to decrease your soundings. Quarter of a mile off the south side of the S. E. angle of Hingie Island there are two patches of low black rocks, and you may stand towards them on their eastern side to the distance of a large quarter of a mile; from half to three-quarters of a mile off this island is a good mid-channel course, to the anchorage off the north end of the island. On the eastern side of the north point of this island there is a ledge of dry rocks, extending one and a half cable's length off the point, with deep water close to them. E. by S. one mile and a half from the S. E. angle of Hingie Island there is a shoal which breaks at low water spring tides, and the bank is steep to. This is the narrowest part of the eastern channel.

Lychune or Diamond Island bears by compass from the Little Pagoda S. 23° E. distant five miles and a half; vessels passing round the north side of this island ought not to go to a greater distance than three-quarters of a mile from the sandy beach, and the lead to be kept going, to avoid a sand-bank with only nine feet water on its shoalest part. From this nine feet the highest tree on Lychune Island bears S. 22° W. distant two miles, and the Great Pagoda N. 42° W.; this shoal extends to the S. W. by W. one mile and a half, and on the western patch you have three fathoms hard at low water over it; from this pitch of the shoal the highest tree on Lychune bears S. 15° E., distant one mile and three-quarters, leaving a channel of little better than half a mile. After bringing the body of the island to bear S. W. you can steer away to the southward and eastward; the flat that runs parallel with the coast is about two miles from Lychune, and approaching it you gradually shoal your soundings. One mile and a half to the southward of Lychune Island there are three patches of dry rocks; there appears to be a good channel between these rocks and the Photon shoal with from six to twelve fathoms water, having overfalls at intervals.

Half a mile to the E. N. E. of the nine feet bank there is another sand running in that direction, with not less than two fathoms on it at low water, and one

mile in length. This sand is very narrow, with three and a half to four fathoms all round it.

Cape Negrais is in latitude $16^{\circ} 1' 40''$ N. and $94^{\circ} 13' 50''$ E.; it bears from the Little Pagoda N. 32° W., distant six miles. There is a reef of breakers between the two points; from the western pitch of this reef the low point of Negrais, forming like a queen, bears north distant two miles; it is steep to, therefore in the daytime you ought not to approach this part of the coast under seven fathoms and a half, and at night not to come under ten fathoms until you are past this danger; inside of this reef there are two small rocky islets. N. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. distant three miles and a half from the low point of Negrais there is a dangerous reef which breaks; it is one mile and a quarter from the coast. This reef has eight fathoms close to it; it appears to be connected with the Brothers Point, which bears from Negrais N. 4° E.; distant six miles and three-quarters N. 7° W. from Negrais. Distant nine miles and three-quarters is a black rock about six feet high lying off shore two miles and a half with ten to eleven fathoms all round. The channel between this rock and the main appears to be free from dangers. N. 28° E., distant five miles and three-quarters from Black Rock, is Round Cape; a bank of sand and coral, extending one mile and a half off this cape, with great overfalls on it, from nine to three fathoms. This bank extends six miles to the northward at the like distance off the shore, and you have ten fathoms soft green mud close to the margin of it. On the north part and western side of this bank there are several patches of breakers and large black rocks; and off them, in one cast of the lead, you get from eight to three fathoms, not leaving a wider channel than three-quarters of a mile abreast the Buffaloes.

The South Sainbain Kieu or Buffaloe Rocks bears from the low extreme point of Cape Negrais N. 3° W., and is in latitude $16^{\circ} 19' 12''$. The southern group are five in number, and about three-quarters of a mile in extent. Pillar Rock bears from the South Buffaloe N. 4° E. distant two miles, leaving a clear channel between the two groups of one mile and a quarter; in this channel there is from ten to twelve fathoms water; to the N. N. E. of the Pillar is the Perforated Islet; this group is connected by black rocks and breakers. N. by E. from the South Buffaloe three miles and four-tenths is the North Buffaloe; between this rock and the Perforated Islet there is a channel from ten to seven fathoms water. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. from the north end of the Perforated Islet, distant one mile, is a small coral bank with only two fathoms over it and from six to eight

eight fathoms all round it. S. 54° E. from the South Buffalo there is a remarkable white rock, called the Mushroom. S. 30° E. from the South Buffalo, distant one mile, is a rocky but small bank, least water on it four fathoms, having ten fathoms all round it. In coming from the seaward the islands to the northward are safe to approach to half-a-mile, but at night you ought not to come under twenty fathoms water. N.E., distant three miles and three-quarters from the South Buffalo, is Naingchune Creek; up this creek there is a village, but neither water nor refreshments could be procured; this creek dries nearly at low water. Ly-chune or South Island is in latitude 16° 22' 45" N., and is 1° 45' E. of Negrais low point. Second island is Oongchune or Coconut Island in 16° 23' 06" N. and 2° 12' E. of Negrais Point. Third island Maygaumgoun or Turtle Island 16° 25' N. and 2° 30' E. of Negrais; small vessels may find shelter to the eastward of the south and middle island in blowing weather, and the channels between the islands are narrow but safe as all the dangers are visible. The channel between these islands and the main is unsafe on account of the sunken rocks in midchannel. To the southward, westward, and northward of the Turtle Island there are reefs of dry rocks, extending half a mile from the island, and are steep to. N. 22° W. from Turtle Island, distant four miles and a half, is a very small rocky bank, which dries at low water spring tides; the bearings from it are: extremes of Coringé or Quoin Island from N. 30° E. to N. 46° E. off three miles and four-tenths, a remarkable white rock W. 2° N. three miles and a half. Conical Cape W. 5° S., distant four miles, the soundings to the westward and northward sixteen to seventeen fathoms; on the east side ten to eleven fathoms; but from ten fathoms you get at one cast of the lead six fathoms rocks, close to the breaker. The bay between this bank and Turtle Island is safe to approach to the distance of one mile from the land. Coringé or Quoin Island; its centre, is in latitude 16° 32' 12" N. and 2° 30' E. of Negrais Point; this island is about two miles long, and its south end is about half-a-mile broad; off its north end there is a high rocky islet, distant about 200 yards. N. 37° E. from this rocky islet, distant one mile, there are two rocky patches. N. 67° E., distant two miles and three-quarters from the islet, are three small but high rocky islets, lying one mile and a half off shore. N. 16° E., distant seven miles and a half from Rocky Islet, there is a high black rock, called the Mile Stone; it lies three miles and a quarter off shore. E. 10° S., from the Mile Stone one mile and three-quarters there is a high island, called Little Quoin, and is half a

mile distant from the main. S. 43° E., distant three miles and a quarter from the Mile Stone is another islet, round and moderately high, and near it to the southward there is another islet, and both of them lie near the main. S. 17° E., distant three miles from the Mile Stone, there is a square island, called High Island, about a quarter of a mile in diameter, covered with jungle. The S.E. angle makes into a small sandy point. N.W. by N. from this island, distant one mile, there are some ledges of dry rocks. N.W. by W. from the island, distant one mile and a half, there are other ledges of rocks; all of them are safe to approach at the distance of half-a-mile in thirteen and fourteen fathoms; there is another ledge south of the island at half-a-mile distance. S. 31° W., distant one mile and three-quarters from High Island, there is a rocky patch with only four fathoms over it. In the daytime you can approach the Quoin Island, the dangers and islands in the bay and the Mile Stone, to the distance of half-a-mile from thirteen to ten fathoms; but during the night it is not prudent to come under twenty fathoms on any part of the coast, particularly in thick weather, when near the Mile Stone and the shoal to the S.S.W. of the Quoin Island. The channel between this shoal and the island and main is safe; the only danger is a breaker a quarter of a mile W.S.W. of the White Rock. The White Rock is a large half mile off the shore. From the Mile Stone N. 40° E., distant six miles and eight-tenths, there is a high round island lying one mile off the shore. E.S.E. of this island is the Creek Choungae S. by E. from this island, distant one mile and a quarter, is Muggiechune Creeks, neither of them navigable at low water at their entrance for small ships' boats; their width is about 100 yards, but when you enter them for a short distance up you have two and two and a half fathoms water. In mid-distance, between the southern creek and Round Island, but a large mile off shore, there is a rock over which the water breaks. N. 30° E. from Round Island, distant two miles, is Sandy Point, surrounded by a dangerous reef extending from the point three-quarters of a mile with some dry rocks on it. North of this point is a bay with a sandy beach; in the southern part of the bight there appeared to be a small inlet or creek. N. 11° E., distant five miles from Round Island, is a reef which breaks, lying off shore one mile and two-thirds, and one mile to the E. by S. of its western point there is a small islet. The soundings off Sandy Point and near this shore is ten fathoms, and from Sandy Point to abreast this shoal is thirteen, ten, eleven, twelve, fourteen fathoms. N. 6° E., distant six miles and a quarter from Round Island, there is another reef

reef lying one mile and a half off shore ; off the pitch of this reef is nine and a half fathoms water ; in shore of this reef there is another small rocky islet ; half-way between the two shoals, but close to the beach, are two white rocks. N, by E.; distant eight miles and three-quarters from Round Island, there is a village on a bluff point of land, called Baumees Keoun, with a creek on its north side. The entrance into this creek and along the bluff point is faced with rocks and breakers. N. 10° E. from Round Island, distant ten miles and a half, there is a sandy point off which there is a dangerous reef of rocks, extending to the westward one mile and a half, called Broken Point; near the rocks you have ten and eight fathoms. A vessel ought not on this part of the coast to come under twelve fathoms in the daytime, and at night under fourteen fathoms; the outer point of this reef bears E.N.E. distant seven miles from the North Calventuras.

Centre of the South Calventuras is in latitude 16° 50' 40" N.; it is moderately high, narrow, and half a mile in length; its sides are perpendicular and craggy; off the north end there are two high but small rocky islets. In latitude 16° 53' N. is North Island, bearing from the South Calventura N. 1° W.; this island is round, well covered with jungle, and higher than the South Island; on its south end there is a small sandy spit, with a reef extending from it to the southward. About half-way between these islands there is a rock that dries at low water, but a little to the eastward of the islands. The N.W. group consist of six rocky islets; the western one is the largest; the others are extremely small and not near so high as the western one, which bears from the South Calventura N. 40° W., distance six miles. About four miles from the South Calventura; in the direction of the N.W. group, at intervals, we observed a breaker, both these breakers require further examination. A vessel coming to the eastward of the Calventuras ought not to approach them under nine fathoms water, and the coast under fourteen fathoms; the depths in mid-channel are occasionally uneven. When Round Island bore W. 25° N., distant three miles and a half, the *Sophia* passed over broken ground, least water six fathoms, the east before fourteen fathoms.

JOHN CRAWFORD,
Capt. Bom. Marine.

Calcutta,
6th Oct. 1836.

CANINE SAGACITY.

A correspondent in a London paper, in speaking of an instance of sagacity in a dog, refers to the following, which happened very recently at Highgate. "A dog, having wounded his leg, was taken

by his master to a surgeon, who dressed it. Unaccompanied he continued to go, day after day, until it was cured: but this was not all, for meeting with another dog some time after, an old acquaintance, who had also met with an accident, he took him to the surgeon's, knocked at the door, and introduced him."

LARGE GUNS.

A correspondent in one of the Indian papers furnishes an account of three guns at Beejapore much larger than that of Bhurtpore, viz.

1st. A very well finished cast brass gun of very fine metal, said to contain a large quantity of silver.

	Ft.	Inch.
Length of the bore	6 10	12 ft.
Length of the chamber	5 2	inside
Outside diameter at muzzle	4 10	
Inside of diameter of the bore	2 7	
Diameter of chamber, about	1 8	
Circumference about 4 feet from muzzle, behind tiger's ears	13 2	
Total length outside	14 8	

Weight of an iron shot 31 inches diameter 4,159 lbs. 10 oz. and 12 drs.

The breech is quite flat; there are three inscriptions on it, two by kings of Beejapore, and one by Aungzebze—to measure the length inside he sent a lascar in as far as the chamber. It was wished, at one time, to have sent this gun to England, but the expense was found too great to take it to Bombay, and besides the people of the place were likely to make great objections to its removal, for both Hindoos and Musselmans consider it a sort of guardian angel; the former often make sacrifices before it, and burn lamps in front, on a pillar placed for the purpose.

2d. A Malabar, or hammered iron, hooped gun.

	Ft.	Inch.
Length	21 6	
Circumference	12 0	
Calibre	1 8	

Weight of iron shot 1,125 lbs.

This gun has numbers of shot marks on it, which are said to have been made when Aungzebze took the place; it lies near the south gate on the top of a large bastion.

3d. A Malabar hammered iron gun.

	Ft.	Inch.
Length	30 0	
Calibre	1 2	

This gun is on the top of a high inner bastion in rear of the first mentioned, which lies on a bastion to the right going out of the Mecca gate.

The first mentioned gun was formerly on an iron swivel, but it has been broken, and the gun lies on logs of wood; the peon who shews the lions of the place tells you that it was only fired once, and that the ball is still flying.

POMPEII.

There has recently been discovered at Pompeii

Pompeii a very grand edifice, which the antiquaries denominate a pantheon. Its form is a parallelogram. The entrance opens in one of the narrowest sides of the building; in the corners are three small rooms. In the middle one two niches have been examined, in which were found statues of Tiberius and Livia. Unluckily these statues, though very beautiful, are without arms. In that of Tiberius, some traces are still discoverable of the red of the toga with which he was clothed. The principal wall is ornamented with paintings, very well preserved, which represent the history of Romulus and Remus, at the moment when they were suckled by the wife of the shepherd Faustulus. In the gallery which conducts to the Pantheon, and in the room which served as a robing-room, are tablets of marble with different numbers. In the numerous paintings of this edifice are representations of hunts, marine monsters, and different animals. Attached to the building is a court surrounded by a portico, supported by elegant columns, with a pediment of white marble. In the midst of this portico rise eight pedestals, which probably supported a small rotunda, similar to that which is seen at Puzzoli, in the temple of Serapis.—[*Journal des Débats*.]

MODERN TURKISH LITERATURE.

Wahid Pacha, the governor of the Greek island of Scio, has published a history of the last massacre; it is entitled *History of the Event at the Isle of Scio*, and is dedicated to the reigning sultan, Mahmoud. It opens with the following passage, entitled "Commencement of the Greek troubles."

"The Greek nation, forming part of the subject rayas who inhabit the vast Ottoman states, suffered themselves to be seduced by devils in human form, and by the instigation of their accursed priests, to a desire of reviving the law of the Lord Jesus. The Greeks imagined that the period had arrived when, according to their false supposition, the reins of government in Greece were to pass into the hands of Christians, and when, agreeably to what they had deduced from ancient histories, they should go free.

'O monstrous thought! O dream impossible!'

"With this crude and indigested fancy, the cursed generation raised the standard of rebellion: they conceived the project (God protect us!) of firing the residence of the Sublime Government (which God preserve to the end of time!) in forty or fifty places, and to destroy the Muslims everywhere. They had agreed upon this plan, when, thanks to the Almighty! we happened to learn it, before the fire burst forth, and this spark had enveloped the country in flames. Under the direction of an energetic policy, steps were taken to punish the chiefs of this

people who were in Greece or Constantinople. Meanwhile, the Prince of Moldavia, Michael, among other evil deeds, stretched forth the hand of ruin and of treachery on the persons and property of the Muslims in Galasa and its environs. On the behalf of the government, measures were taken to prevent the rayas of Roumelia, Moldavia, and Wallachia from raising a disturbance."

The Pacha, in the course of his narrative, positively declares that he had an express revelation from the other world, promising him success; and that the Saint Abd-ul-Kadir Ghilani (founder of an order of dervishes) condescended to appear to him personally, and to tell him where to plant his tails and colours upon the bastion! Extracts from the original, accompanied by translations, are given in the *Journal Asiatique*, No. 57.

MACAO AND CANTON.

The following description of Macao and Canton is given by Messrs. Tyerman and Bennet, the deputation sent to the east by the London Missionary Society; it appears in their *Transactions*.

The island, or rather peninsula of Macao, which is about six miles in circumference, is a mere rock exceedingly sterile and barren in appearance. It contains 45,000 inhabitants, of whom 40,000 are Chinese, who live principally in the town of Macao; the rest of the population is composed of Portuguese and a few English. The climate is good, the atmosphere salubrious, and the heat by no means oppressive. There are many Chinese temples on the island, thirteen Roman Catholic churches and chapels, with about 100 priests and others attached to them; and one English Protestant chapel belonging to the East-India Company.

The distance from Macao to Canton, by what is called the Inner Passage, is nearly 100 miles, which is traversed in large boats, along rivers and canals, which intersect the whole of the intermediate country. Several large and populous towns are situated on the banks of the rivers, which are everywhere crowded with boats. The distant hills have the most sterile aspect, while the low country is exceedingly rich and fertile, planted with rice, sugar-cane, &c. Some of the hills are adorned with pagodas, which give the landscape the most picturesque and interesting appearance.

Canton contains about 800,000 inhabitants, including those who live upon the water in boats. It stretches about five miles up the side of the river, and nearly three miles in the opposite direction. The houses are in general small, and the streets crowded and very narrow, but well paved and clean. The appearance of business is astonishing. Within this vast place all is bustle, but the best order everywhere prevails.

vails. Many of the shops are handsome, and the hongs (or warehouses) of the Hong merchants are prodigious establishments. The factories belonging to the East-India Company, and various other merchants, are buildings of great magnitude, though they are all confined within a space not more than a quarter of a mile square, on the bank of the river.

On the island of Hainan, and on the side of the river immediately opposite to Canton, is one of the most ancient and extensive temples in all China: it covers a vast plot of ground, and supports nearly 100 priests. In one compartment the writers saw twelve sacred hogs of great size, which are fed and kept with the greatest care: some of them, it is said, are seventy or eighty years old. It was in this temple that Lord Amherst was allowed to take up his residence.

In the house of every Chinese and in every shop there is generally a compartment, or recess, fitted up facing the entrance-door, and furnished with all the apparatus necessary for their idolatrous worship, with candles and incense burning; and, in the evenings, are seen at the door of almost every house, sticks with incense burning in compliment to their gods. Some of the Chinese appear to be conscientious and diligent in the discharge of what they consider their religious duties, and are not unfrequently seen with their doors and windows open, exposed to the gaze of every one who may be passing by, performing their evening devotions, prostrating themselves before their idols, burning *sacred paper*, and letting off crackers, with which they imagine their gods to be highly pleased! These gentlemen conclude with the following remarks:

"Such is the lamented state of China, that we conceive the only way in which it can be assailed is through the medium of the *out-posts*. A missionary, as such, cannot exist with safety any where in that vast country but where the East-India Company have factories, i. e. in Canton and Macao only. Till Divine Providence operate some mighty change in the political views and circumstances of China, nothing can be done in it to introduce Christianity by direct missionary exertions. A Jesuit at Peking was lately decapitated because he had attempted to make converts to Roman Catholicism; and another was banished to Macao because he was supposed to have had some correspondence with him by letter only. Both those men had lived many years at Peking under the auspices of the government. In Java, however, at Malacca, Singapore, Penang, &c. &c. the Chinese are quite accessible to the Christian missionary, and no other difficulties present themselves than those of depraved human nature and of their idolatrous system."

DIAMONDS IN SIBERIA.

Some expectations are entertained of finding diamonds in Siberia. A traveller in that country (a naturalist) states as follows:—"The platiniferous sand of Nishny-Tura exhibits a striking analogy with the sand of Brazil, in which diamonds are found. This sand is composed principally of rounded fragments of hydrate of iron and jasper, and contains more platina than gold. The sand of Nishny-Tura is visibly formed of the same component parts; and the presence of the hydrate of iron is the more remarkable because it is in a conglomerate of this kind that the Brazil diamonds are impacted, and these minerals never meet accidentally; they are the debris of one and the same formation."—[*Zeitschrift für Mineral.*]

THE BECHE DE MER.

The Beche de Mer, called also Trepan, sea-slug, sea blubber, and sea nettle, an article of trade in the eastern seas, is an animal which would be entirely defenceless but for a provision which nature has made for its protection. It is little more than a lump of jelly, sometimes black and sometimes white, almost inanimate, and would be taken without difficulty, but that it is endowed with a caustic property that blisters the flesh of those who touch it, and causes inflammation.

CINGALESE MSS.

A collection of MSS., fifty in number, has been brought from Ceylon by Professor Rask, and deposited in the Royal Library at Copenhagen. Some of them are in the Pali and the rest in the vernacular dialect of Ceylon. They are the subject of an article in the first number of the *Nordisk Tidsskrift*, or "Journal of the North," edited by Christian Molbeck and published at Copenhagen.

ORIGIN OF THE PHOENIX.

In the *Asiatic Annual Register* for 1802 is an account of a species of sparrow in India which illuminates her nest in the night with glow worms, which she fastens to it by means of a kind of glutinous clay. May not the observation of such a fact as this have given rise to the fable of the phoenix setting fire to its nest?

DOUBLE CIRCULATION IN THE CHARA.

In our last number (p. 69) an account was given of the discovery of a double circulation in the curious genus *Chara*. From an elaborate review of several botanical works in the *Bulletin Universel* for June last, we learn that this is no new discovery, although the fact has been doubted. In 1774, Corti perceived that the juice of this plant ascended on one side and redescended on the other of the same

same tube, which observation was confirmed by Fontana, but it was not known. Treviranus made the same discovery, whilst ignorant of the preceding observations; he published it, three years after, in the *Mém. d'Hist. Nat.* of Weber, 1810, and in his *Mém. de Physiologie*, 1811. Wallroth and M. de Martius denied the truth of the discovery, which was supported by Gozzi; Treviranus replied, and a controversy took place. Ehrenburg, subsequently, observed this circulation in the small tubes surrounding the principal tube; and lastly M. Amici, by his observation, threw a new light upon the subject (*Ann. des Sciences Nat.* May 1824), and the fact was afterwards established by Link, Horckel, Schultz, &c. These and other details on the history of the genus are collected from the *Erfahrungen ueber das Keimen der Charen*, &c. of M. Kaulfuss. An able article by Mr. Agardh, published in the *Acta Acad. Cæs. Leop. Car. Nat. Cur.* Vol. XIII., "on the organization of the *Charæ* and the circulation observed in the species of this genus," contains the laws which regulate this extraordinary circulation. One of them is highly curious: "The direction of the currents in the eight branches of the plant represents a star, the rays of which proceed from the centre of the knot, and in which two currents travel in the direction of the two principal currents (which flow inversely, and perpendicularly to the median line) and two others in that of the median line; the whole forming together an angle of forty-five degrees." As the plant is to be found in England, our botanists will doubtless not lose sight of these curious facts.

UNION OF THE ATLANTIC AND THE BLACK SEA.

The project of uniting the Rhine and the Danube, which was conceived and even commenced by Charlemagne, and submitted by General Dessoles to the attention of Buonaparte when first consul,* is now reviving on the Continent. By the assistance of canals, a water communication would be opened, by the accomplishment of this project, between the countries of France, Germany, Holland, &c., and Persia, by means of canals between the Black Sea and the Caspian. The canal is proposed to be begun at Kelheim, on the Danube, near Ratisbon, where the Altmühl falls into that river at right angles, and will form the bed of the canal.

BATHING AT GUNGA SAUGOR.

The pilgrims who visited Saugor to bathe in the sea at the Makara Sankranti this year, amounted to between forty and

fifty thousand of every age and both sexes. The men were mostly from the Upper Provinces, but the females chiefly from Bengal. The greater portion belonged to the Saiva and Sakta sects, and some of the religious members of these divisions of the Hindu faith came from Nepaul and the Punjab, whilst others were from the south of India. They assembled on or before the 11th January, and the ceremonies began on the 12th: they occupy three days.

The place of assemblage is a sand-bank on the southern coast of Gunga Saugor, immediately to the west of the creek called Pagoda Creek, from a small temple situated near its opening into the sea. The temple lies on the same side of Pagoda Creek as the sand-bank, but is separated from the latter by a smaller creek running inland; south from which to the sea-shore is thick jungle, with a path through it leading to a tank, whence the pilgrims are supplied with fresh water. Tigers sometimes lurk in this jungle, and in the present year are reported to have carried off several individuals. Along the sea-side, for about a mile, are rows of booths, shops, and temporary temples, with the travelling gods of their religious mendicants, who receive the homage and contributions of the pious. Besides the supply of provisions, there is a considerable traffic carried on, chiefly in betel-nuts, black pepper, and the red powder (*abeer*) to be scattered about at the Hooli. An impost is levied by the officers of government stationed here of four annas per oar, besides a fee of one anna to the establishment; but the charge is unauthorized, except as made by the Bairagis or Sanyasis, who had assumed the right of levying four annas per oar, and from eight annas to one or two rupees for each shop. This claim has been so far authorized that the right to levy any charge was withdrawn from the Saugor Society upon the petition of the religious mendicants, and the latter thus confirmed in the power they exercised. The amount was inconsiderable, having been farmed in the first year for 1,200 rupees, and in the second for 2,000.

The first or preparatory ceremony is the propitiation of the sea, by casting into it suitable offerings. The most appropriate is that termed the *Punchu Rutnu*, or five gems; consisting of a pearl, a diamond, an emerald, a topaz, and a piece of coral, with a coco-nut, a betel-nut, and the thread worn by Brahmins. These are wrapped up in a piece of cloth and cast into the river below Khela Gacchiya, which is called Dholah Samudra, and also at the conflux. The gems are, in general, of the smallest, not worth above a rupee or two; but those whose means do not admit of such a costly donation, offer a coco-nut, a betel-nut, or a plantain.

On the first day, the essential rite is bathing

* *Moniteur* of the 30th Pluviose an IX (19 February 1801).

bathing in the sea, which takes place early in the morning, and is by some repeated at noon; some also perform the *Sraddha*, or obsequial rite to deceased ancestors, and some undergo the operation of shaving the head. After bathing they repair to the temple above-mentioned, which is dedicated to Kapila Muni. This sage was an incarnation of Vishnu, to destroy the sixty thousand sons of King Sagara. He took up his station at this place, which was then on the brink of a chasm leading to the infernal regions, and when the sons of the King, in search of a steed intended for a solemn sacrifice, broke in upon his meditations, he reduced them all to ashes by the lightning of his eye. In order to purify their remains, and secure paradise for their spirits, the great grandson of Sagara brought the Ganges from the heavens to this place, where the waters filling up the chasm which now constitutes the bed of the sea, thus formed the ocean. The Ganges is named Bhagirathi, after King Bhagirath; and the sea is called Saugor, after the name of his great grandsire.

The temple of Kapila is under the alternate charge of a Bairagi and Sanyasi. The latter presides at the Mela, in the month of Kartik, the former in Magh, or January. They levy a tax of four annas on each person who visits the temple, the amount of which is divided amongst five different establishments of Ramanandi Bairagis, in the vicinity of Calcutta. In front of the temple is a Bur-tree (*Ficus Indica*), and on either side stands an image of Rama and Hanuman: within the temple is an image of Kapila, nearly as large as life. The pilgrims very commonly write their names on the wall, with a short prayer to Kapila, whilst some suspend a piece of earth or brick to a bough of the bur-tree, accompanying the act with some solicitation, as for health, or affluence, or posterity, and a promise in that case to make a gift to some divinity. Behind the temple is a small excavation, termed Sitakund, filled with fresh water, which the pilgrims sip, paying a small fee to the mahant of the temple. This reservoir is probably filled from the tank shortly before the Mela occurs, but the attendant mahant endeavours to persuade the people that it is a perpetual miracle, and is kept always full for the use of the temple.

On the second and third days bathing in the sea and the worship of the Ganges are practised, after which the meeting breaks up. During the whole time the pilgrims sleep on the sand, it being held heterodox to repose on board in their boats. — [Cal. Gov. Gaz.]

THE CAMELEOPARD.

The arrival of a living cameleopard at Paris has excited, as well it may, the unbounded curiosity of the inhabitants of

that city. The following are some particulars respecting this animal from French publications.

The *Constitutionnel* of July 3 contains the following inflated account:—"The long-expected cameleopard has at length arrived, and made its solemn entry into Paris at half-past five on Saturday afternoon. A Darfur negro, named Atir, and a Moor of Sennaar, called Hassan, both sent by the Pacha of Egypt, dressed in their turbans, &c., held the animal in a halter, and were followed by two other Africans. It had been stripped at the gates of its travelling habit, which consisted of a covering of cloth having on it the arms of France. It was accompanied by an escort of twenty-five gens-d'armes, which had been sent to meet it at the gate of Villeneuve-Saint-Georges. All the way from Marseilles to Paris three gens-d'armes, who were relieved every post, attended in order to protect it from mischief. A waggon, containing several other animals sent by the Pacha to the King, preceded the cortège, in which we noticed M. Geoffroy-Saint-Hilaire, who, forgetting the care of his health in his anxiety for the interests of science, had constantly accompanied it till he approached within a few leagues of Paris, and then only confided his post to his son, from his indisposition becoming too serious to be neglected.

"The cabinet of the Jardin des Plantes was the first establishment in Europe which possessed the skin of a cameleopard, others not having procured any till some time after. Since the Roman conquests none have been brought to Europe alive,* and it seems that it is rare even in Central Africa, its native country. That which has been sent to us measures twelve feet high from the top of the head, but as it is only two years of age, it has much to grow. It has hitherto been fed upon milk, but it now begins to eat grass and corn. Its skin is spotted like that of the leopard, hence its name of cameleopard. Its large and brilliant eye might, at least as well as that of the gazelle's, have furnished the Arabian poets with beautiful comparisons.

"It was a most singular sight to see it approaching its new dwelling, with its escort of Egyptians, gens-d'armes and idlers. Its elegant head reached to the foliage of the chestnut-trees; its long neck gracefully rose above the throng, and its well set large black eye was filled with mildness and joy. Hassan and Atir, proud of the beautiful animal their country had produced, had ornamented its neck with a vast wreath of flowers, near which were suspended several Arabian amulets. There was in the whole sight something

* This is incorrect; one was sent to Italy in 1496.

something which recalled to mind the Thousand and One Nights. It has been lodged in the orangery, with several of the other Egyptian animals sent with it. Yesterday it took its first walk. More than 10,000 persons have been to view it, the public being admitted every day from ten to twelve o'clock."

The following is from a pamphlet published by M. Ferluz:—"This animal is very scarce. It is certain that the species is decreasing daily, so that it is apprehended that it will become in time totally extinct. The cameleopard which we now possess was caught in the environs of Sennaar, in Africa, by the troops of the Pacha of Egypt. It was found along with another, the mother being shot in order to get possession of the little ones. The skin of the mother was brought to Cairo by four camels; the flesh of the animal is good to eat. Our cameleopard, when taken, was about two months old; it was conducted to Cairo along with its companion, partly by walking from one caravan station to another, and partly by the Nile, in a boat constructed for the purpose. When they arrived the two animals were brought to the Pacha, who offered them as presents to the King of France and the King of England. The consuls of the two nations drew lots for their choice; the French consul had the good fortune to be favoured by chance, and his choice was a lucky one, for the cameleopard destined for the King of England is since dead.* The French consul embarked with four Africans, to accompany the animal to Marseilles.

"The neck is that which most surprises spectators by its extreme length. Nature having destined the cameleopard to be nourished almost exclusively upon the leaves of trees has gifted it with a gigantic stature. The neck is not stiff, as the greater part of naturalists have described it; on the contrary, it is extremely flexible and graceful: it is spotted like the rest of the body. It has also been said that this animal cannot feed off the ground, and that it must kneel while drinking. The whole of this is false; the cameleopard eats and drinks off the ground as easily as other animals, by spreading its fore legs. Its food consists, for the most part, of the leaves of trees. That at present in Paris, however, was fed at first solely on milk; at present its food consists of maize, beans, and barley; milk is its only drink. Three cows brought from Alexandria still furnish the milk for its use. This quadruped is ruminant; almost all leaves serve as food for it, but it

prefers those of the acacia, an African tree. Other animals, in general, do not alarm the cameleopard, and it looks upon the crowds that press round to admire it with pleasure and tranquillity. Its submission is without bounds, only it cannot resist the desire of catching at the leaves of every tree that comes in its way, and its keepers are obliged to rein its head, which is always turning to one side or another after its natural food. It appears to seek relief for this privation by continually passing its tongue over its lips, and by sometimes pushing it out in a very remarkable manner. The cameleopard is two years and a few months old, and will grow, it is supposed, for many years to come. Its flesh, especially when young, is excellent food, and the bones are filled with a marrow which the Hottentots look upon as exquisite. These tribes are in the frequent habit of chasing the cameleopard, which they bring down with their poisoned arrows."

A French writer (M. Jauffret) has taken advantage of the arrival of this animal to add a fable or two to those of *La Fontaine*, who, he observes, has not admitted the cameleopard amongst his animals. M. Jauffret wittily characterizes the cameleopard as

Type vivant du genre romantique;

And concludes his first fable with this moral:

La capitale est un séjour divin;
Là, plus qu'ailleurs, que l'on soit homme ou bête,
Qui vient de loin et porte haut la tête,
Est assuré de faire son chemin!

CAPT. FRANKLIN'S EXPEDITION.

The *Quebec Gazette* contains an account of this expedition in a letter from one of the party, dated Great Slave Lake, Nov. 12, 1826.

The principal object of the expedition was to discover a navigable passage, westward, from the mouth of the Mackenzie, to Behring's Straits, and his Majesty's ship *Blossom*, Capt. Beechey, was despatched round Cape Horn, for the purpose of meeting it at Icy Cape or in Kotzebue's Sound. If Capt. Franklin's means permitted, he was directed also to send a detachment to the eastward, to survey the coast between Mackenzie and Coppermine rivers, and to return overland from the mouth of the latter to the establishment on Bear Lake.

Capt. Franklin descended the Mackenzie and visited the Arctic sea last year; he returned to winter quarters at Fort Franklin, in Bear Lake. On the 21st June the expedition descended the Mackenzie as far as lat. 67° 38' N., long. 133° 53' W., where the river divides into several branches. Here the expedition separated; two boats under Capt. F. proceeding to the westward,

* This statement is not correct. The cameleopard which fell to the lot of the English consul was sent to Malta, there to be shipped for England. In May last the ship *Penelope* was preparing to receive it.

westward, and two boats under Dr. Richardson to the eastward.

Capt. Franklin, in the preceding autumn, had descended a middle channel, and reached the sea at Garry's island, in lat. $69^{\circ} 30' N.$, long. $135^{\circ} 45' W.$ He now entered the most westerly arm which winds round the base of the rocky mountains, and reached its mouth on the 7th of July. Its outlet is so barred by sandbanks, that the crews were compelled to drag the boats for miles, even at the top of high water. In this unpleasant situation they had a serious affray with a large party of Esquimaux, who at first behaved quietly, and carried on a barter in an amicable manner. On the 9th of July Capt. Franklin was stopped by ice, unbroken from the shore, and from that date up to the 4th of August, he could advance only as the separation took place, and seldom more than a mile or two a day. In this tedious way he reached the 141st degree of longitude, by which time the ice had given way so as to give a passage to the boats: but other obstacles of a most serious nature now opposed themselves to his progress. The coast was so low and difficult of approach, from the shallowness of the water, that a landing on the main shore was effected only once after the passing of the 139th degree of longitude, though it was frequently attempted, by dragging the boats for miles through the mud. On all other occasions he had to land on the naked reefs that skirt the coast, where, after the departure of ice, the party suffered severely from the want of fresh water, and once passed two entire days without that necessary article. Thick fogs and heavy gales of wind prevented the expedition from quitting this inhospitable part of the coast, and it was detained on one spot for eight days by a fog so dense, that all objects were obscured at the distance of a few yards, stormy weather prevailing all the time. Notwithstanding these almost insurmountable obstacles, the resolution and perseverance of Capt. F. and his party enabled them to reach nearly the 150th degree of longitude by the 18th of August. The trending of the coast had carried the expedition into $70\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ of N. latitude. They had now performed more than half the distance, along the coast, to Icy Cape: had plenty of provisions, boats in good order, and an open sea before them; and although, from the fatigues they had undergone, the strength of the crews was somewhat impaired, yet their spirit was unbroken; but the period had now arrived when it was Capt. Franklin's duty, in pursuance of his instructions, to consider the probability of his being able to reach Kotzebue's Sound before the severe weather set in; and if he did not expect to attain that object, he was prohibited from hazarding the safety of

the party by a longer continuance on the coast. It would have been the extremity of rashness to have attempted to get to Kotzebue's Sound by traversing an unknown coast at that advanced season, even had he been certain that the *Blossom* had reached that place; but the uncertainty attending all voyages in high latitudes made it extremely doubtful whether that vessel was actually at the rendezvous or not. Capt. Franklin therefore decided upon commencing his return to Boar Lake, where he arrived with his party, after suffering a succession of stormy weather, on the 21st Sept.

The eastern detachment pursued that channel of the river by which Mackenzie returned from the sea, and which is accurately and ably described by him. They reached the sea on the 7th July, in lat. $69^{\circ} 29' N.$, long. $133^{\circ} 24' W.$ They were somewhat incommoded on that day only by a horde of Esquimaux. After reaching the sea, considerable difficulty was experienced in coasting a shore of a very peculiar nature, to lat. $70^{\circ} 37' N.$, long. $126^{\circ} 52' W.$ The coast, thus far, consists of islands of alluvial (or diluvial) origin, skirted by sandy banks running far to seaward, and intersected by creeks of brackish water, and separated in part by wide estuaries, pouring out at that season of the year large bodies of fresh water. These alluvial lands are inundated by the spring floods, and covered with drift timber, except a number of insulated mounds of frozen earth, which rise considerably above the highest water-mark, and are analogous to the frozen banks or icebergs described as bounding Kotzebue's Sound. Betwixt them and the main shore there is a very extensive lake of brackish water, which perhaps communicates with the eastern branch of the Mackenzie, and receives at least one other large river. This party subsequently tracked a rocky and bolder shore, rounded Cape Parry in lat. $70^{\circ} 18' N.$, long. $123^{\circ} W.$, Cape Krusenstern in lat. $68^{\circ} 46' N.$, long. $114^{\circ} 45' W.$, and entered George the Fourth's Coronation Gulf, by the Dolphin and Union Straits, which brought them nearly to the 113th degree of W. longitude. They then steered for the Copper-mine river, and entered it on the 8th of August.

They suffered some detention on this voyage, from bad weather, and had, on several occasions, to cut a passage through tongues of ice with the hatchet. The ice attains a great thickness in that sea, some of the floes being aground in nine fathoms water, but under the powerful radiation of a sun constantly above the horizon, in the summer months, it decays with an almost incredible rapidity. As the boats drew only twenty inches of water, the party were on several occasions enabled to sail through shallow canals, worn on the surface

surface of these floes by the action of the waves, when, from the ice being closely packed on the shore, they could find no passage betwixt the masses of which it was composed. They had fortunately clear weather for these attempts. Notwithstanding the quantity of ice they encountered thus early in the season, they were convinced that towards the end of August there is a free passage for a ship along the northern coast of America, from the 100th to the 150th degree of west longitude; and to the eastward of the Mackenzie there are some commodious harbours, although there are none on the part of the coast surveyed by Capt. Franklin to the westward. The whole difficulty in performing the north-west passage in a ship seems to be in attaining the coast of the continent through the intricate straits which lead from Baffin's or Hudson's Bays. The flood tide was found setting every where along the coast from the eastward.

The rapids, which obstructed the navigation of the Copper-mine, prevented them from bringing their boats above eight miles from the sea, and they therefore abandoned them there with the remainder of their stores, tents, &c. a present to the Esquimaux, and set out overland. They arrived on the eastern arm of Bear Lake on the 18th of August, and at the fort on the 1st of September, after an absence of seventy-one days, in excellent health and condition.

CAPT. BEECHY'S EXPEDITION.

A letter from Capt. Beechey has appeared in the London papers, dated from San Francisco, a port in New Albion, November 4th, 1826, from whence it appears (in addition to what was stated in our last vol. p. 838) that this expedition has fully succeeded in its objects. His account is in substance as follows:—He quitted St. Paul's on the 4th July and reached Kotzebue's Sound, where he waited four days, and then proceeded to the northward with fine and favourable weather, and penetrated 120 miles further than the Icy Cape of Cook. Being sanguine as to the success of Capt. Franklin from what he (Capt. Beechey) had seen of the coast about Prince Regent's Inlet, the appearance of every *baidar*, or native boat, excited hopes of seeing his coadjutor. The approach of winter deadened these expectations, and at length the edges of the harbour became frozen, and it needed only a day or two of calm weather to render the whole a mass of ice. This was a signal he dared not disobey, and on the 14th October, with a clear sky and hard frost, Capt. Beechey steered out of the sound,

after leaving a supply of flour on the island, and a case of beads, to enable the other party to purchase the friendship of the natives, several companies of whom were seen towards the end of September, travelling homewards with their stock of provisions for the winter.

The result of these two expeditions leaves very little wanting to complete the survey of the coast of the Arctic Sea. Capt. Franklin and Dr. Richardson have ascertained it nearly through 36 degrees of longitude, from 114° to 150° west; there remains a coast of little more than 200 miles unexplored, to the place where Capt. Beechey waited with so much anxiety the junction with his coadjutor, to effect the long-sought discovery of a *North-West Passage*.

ANCIENT ARAB DIVINATION.

Amongst the pagan Arabs (before the appearance of Mahomet) the following species of divination was in use:—Three arrows, without points or feathers, were enclosed in a bag, which was kept by the priest of Hobal, an idol in the temple of Mecca. Upon one of these arrows was written *Command me, Lord!* on another, *Forbid me, Lord!* and upon the third nothing. When an Arab wished to determine upon any project, he went to the Mohaver Hobal, or priest, and, making him a present, drew an arrow from the bag. If it proved the first, he engaged in his design; if the second, he deferred it for a year; if the third, he repeated the drawing, and also the present. Every important question, even the division of plunder or property, was decided by these arrows. The use of them is strictly prohibited in the Alcoran.

ACQUISITIONS TO NATURAL HISTORY IN THE EAST.

At the meeting of the Academy of Sciences at Paris, 9th July, the Minister of Marine communicated several memoirs of Messrs. Quoy and Gaymart, the naturalists attached to the expedition under Capt. Durville. Twenty-five cases, containing more than 500 objects of natural history, have been transmitted by them to the Museum of Paris. They state that they have collected sufficient observations to authorize the creation of eleven new genera, and of 105 new species. These communications, moreover, appear but the prelude of those they expect to make in the course of the expedition, which they consider as scarcely begun. The coasts of New Guinea, especially, appear capable of furnishing ample riches. — [*Le Globe*.

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

CHAPLAINS' FEES.

Fort William, General Department, Jan. 19, 1827.—The Right Hon. the Vice President in Council has been pleased to authorize the following revised scale of fees, to be received henceforward by the presidency chaplains on account of marriages and baptisms, and by the cathedral clerk on the former.

Chaplains.—A fee of fifty rupees for a marriage by license, and of sixteen rupees for a marriage by banns. A fee of thirty-two rupees for every baptism which the chaplains shall be called upon to administer out of the hours of divine service on Sundays, except in cases of dangerous illness.

Clerk.—A fee of five rupees on a marriage by license, and of two rupees on presenting the banns for publication.

BENGAL MILITARY FUND.

Fort William, Jan. 26, 1827.—The Right Hon. the Vice President in Council has much gratification in publishing, for the information of the army, the following extract (paras. 93 to 98) from a general letter from the Hon. the Court of Directors, in the Military Department, under date the 30th August 1826, expressive of their concurrence in the regulations now established for the Bengal Military Fund.

93. "The experience obtained from the operation of the Madras and Bombay funds, induces us to accede to your wish, and to that of the subscribers to the Bengal Military Fund, that the amount of pensions to widows shall not be contingent on the amount of property left by their deceased husbands.

94. "We also accede to your proposition for substituting solemn declarations, on honour, for affidavits, in all ordinary cases where there is no suspicion of unfairness.

95. "The rates and rules for granting pensions and other benefits from the Bengal Military Fund, which are described in the printed regulations transmitted to us, have likewise our sanction.

96. "We shall make the desired advances to the agents of the Fund in England, on the same terms as are allowed to other Indian institutions, namely, 2s. 4d. per sicca rupee.

97. "We also authorize you to allow eight per cent. interest on the *bona fide* ba-

lances of the Fund paid into the Treasury.

98. "Finally, we shall require all chaplains, cadets, and assistant surgeons, hereafter entering into our service, to contribute to the Bengal Military Fund, in the same manner as they are now obliged to contribute to the Orphan Fund; and to such as are already in our service in India, you will be pleased to communicate our wish that they may subscribe, and our determination to refuse compliance with any application for relief on behalf of the widows or families of such officers, military, medical, and ecclesiastical, as shall refuse to contribute to the Fund."

COURT-MARTIAL.

MAJOR BROWN.

Head-Quarters, Calcutta, Jan. 30, 1827.—At an European General Court-Martial, assembled at Agra on the 28th Nov. 1826, of which Brigadier Robert Patton, C. B., 18th regt. N. I., is president, Major Alex. Brown, of the 1st Bengal European Regiment, was arraigned on the undermentioned charges, *viz.*

Charges. 1st. With having, at Agra, on or about the 28th June 1826, improperly interfered with the established regulations for the drill of the regiment; unwarrantably reprimanded Lieut. and Adj. Pitts for not delivering over the parade to him; and making his remarks on the subject in presence of the regiment, without reporting the circumstance to Lieut. Col. Cartwright, his immediate commanding officer.

2d. With general neglect of duty, in absenting himself from the parades and exercises of the regiment on various pretences, from the time Lieut. Col. Cartwright assumed the command of the regiment, in March 1825; and particularly in not attending guard-mounting and drill on Thursday the 29th June, and the drills on Friday the 30th June 1826, and the dress parade on Sunday the 2d July 1826, and the drill on the 3d July 1826.

3d. With disregard of his rank and situation, as major and next in command of the regiment, by not affording the least support to Lieut. Col. Cartwright in the exercise of his authority, and, besides the injurious effect of bad example, throwing every impediment in his way, particularly in the case of Capt. Ledlie, on the 28th June 1826, who pleaded the example of Major Brown; and of Mr. Surgeon Webb, in the month of Jan. 1826, when Major

Major Brown refused Lieut. Col. Cartwright the support which he was bound to afford to the authority of his commanding officer.

4th. With having written a letter to the adjutant of the regiment, dated the 9th July 1826, in which he imputes to Lieut. Col. Cartwright interminable quarrels with his brother officers; declares that Lieut. Col. Cartwright, from the time he joined the regiment, had set aside the usual courtesy and politeness among officers; that a studied predetermination to quarrel, and support the disrespectful conduct of his adjutant, must effectually prevent his (Major Brown) being on amicable terms with him, without sacrificing every feeling which an officer ought to possess; and also animadverts on the state of the drill and of the regiment, when under the command of Lieut. Col. Cartwright at a late inspection; the whole tenour and style of the above letter exhibiting a total disregard of the authority, and a contemptuous and wilful misrepresentation of the character and conduct of Lieut. Col. Cartwright, his immediate commanding officer, in utter violation of all order and military discipline.

5th. With having, in the same letter, imputed to Lieut. and Adj. Pitts, unmilitary and disrespectful, and in his (Major Brown's) estimation, mutinous conduct; and charging Lieut. and Adj. Pitts with conduct subversive of military discipline, and tending to excite serious disturbances in the 1st European Regiment; such charges being a wilful and malicious misrepresentation of the conduct of that officer in the proper execution of his duty.

Upon which charges the Court came to the following decision:

Finding. The Court, having maturely weighed and considered the whole of the evidence for the prosecution, and for the defence, and what the prisoner has urged in his justification, come to the following decision upon the several charges before them, *viz.*

Upon the 1st charge, the Court are of opinion that the prisoner, Major Brown, did not interfere with the established regulations for the drill of the 1st European Regiment; that he (Major Brown) did reprimand Lieut. and Adj. Pitts for not delivering over the parade to him, but that such reprimand was not unwarrantable; the prisoner not having been apprized that on coming to the regimental parade, when the whole regiment was at drill and the officers present, he was not entitled, as senior officer on parade, to expect or to exact a report of the corps from the adjutant.

The Court are also of opinion, that the prisoner did make his remarks on the subject, as stated in the charge, in presence, but not in the hearing, of the regiment,

but that such remarks were not improper; and that the prisoner did not report the circumstance, as alleged in the charge, to his commanding officer; but the Court attach no blame to the omission nor to any part of his conduct on this charge, and the Court do therefore acquit him of the 1st charge.

On the 2d charge, the Court do find the prisoner, Major Alex. Brown, not guilty, and do honourably acquit him of the same.

On the 3d charge, the Court find the prisoner not guilty, and do honourably acquit them thereof.

On the 4th charge, the Court do find the prisoner, Major Alexander Brown, guilty of having written the letter to the adjutant of the 1st European Regiment, dated the 9th July 1826, to the substance stated in the 4th charge; that he is guilty of having (through error of judgment) misrepresented, in his said letter of the 9th July, the conduct of Lieut. Col. Cartwright, his immediate commanding officer, by accusing him of a studied predetermination to quarrel, and support the disrespectful conduct of his adjutant.

The Court are also of opinion, that the said letter is in utter violation of all order and military discipline.

The Court find the prisoner not guilty of exhibiting, by the tenour and style of his said letter, a total disregard of authority, and of contemptuous and wilful misrepresentation of the character and conduct of Lieut. Col. Cartwright, his immediate commanding officer, and do therefore acquit him thereof.

The Court find the prisoner not guilty of misrepresenting the character and conduct of Lieut. Col. Cartwright, in imputing to him, in his said letter, interminable quarrels with his officers; and that he is not guilty of misrepresentation in imputing, in his said letter to Lieut. Col. Cartwright, his having set aside the usual courtesy and politeness among officers.

The Court are further of opinion, that the prisoner is not guilty of misrepresenting, in his said letter, the state of the drill and of the regiment, when under the command of Lieut. Col. Cartwright, at a late inspection.

The Court do therefore acquit the prisoner of misrepresentation in the three last-mentioned instances.

On the 5th charge, the Court find the prisoner, Major Alex. Brown, guilty, with exception of the words "wilful and malicious," of which excepted part of the charge they do acquit him.

Sentence. The Court, having found the prisoner guilty on the 4th and 5th charges, to the extent above specified, do adjudge him, the said Major Alex. Brown, of the 1st Bengal European Regiment, to be suspended from his rank, pay, and allowances

ances, for the period of two calendar months.

Approved and confirmed.

(Signed) COMBERMERE, Gen.
Commander-in-chief.

Recommendation. In closing their proceedings on the trial, the Court beg respectfully to submit to the favourable consideration of his Excellency the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief, that it has appeared in the course of the trial, that the objectionable and reprehensible letter of Major Brown, as alleged in the 4th charge, was not a voluntary and unprovoked obstruction of his comments on his commanding officer's conduct, but produced under much irritation and excitement, from the circumstance of Colonel Cartwright's unusual representation of Major Brown's conduct to the commandant of the garrison, without any previous intimation to the Major of such reference, and the publication in the regimental order book of the commandant's censure, elicited from him by such *ex-parte* reference, without giving the Major an opportunity of offering explanation of his conduct animadverted on, and without the sanction of the commandant of the garrison.

The Court further respectfully urge to his Lordship's favourable consideration, the very long period of arrest in which the prisoner has been detained previously to his arraignment.

(Signed) ROBT. PATTON, Brig., President.
Remarks by the Right Hon. the Commander-in-chief.

In approving of the proceedings of this Court-Martial, and thereby declaring that the special finding on the several charges which have been investigated, is, in the opinion of the Commander-in-chief, justified by the evidence; His Excellency feels called upon to state, that though it appears that Lieut. Col. Cartwright did not conduct the duties of his command with that conciliatory manner which ought to have pervaded his conduct, yet it is evident that he did not meet with that cordial and sincere support and assistance, from the senior officers of the regiment, which he had a right to claim; and that they, instead of openly communicating with their commanding officer, brooded over every trifling circumstance which appeared to them annoying, until they believed that they were actually labouring under serious grievances.

His Excellency highly deprecates an opinion, apparently prevailing amongst some of the officers of the 1st European Regiment, that a reprimand from their commanding officer, on a point of duty, can be considered as the grounds of personal quarrel. His Lordship desires to enforce, in the strongest terms, that such an idea is subversive of every principle of military discipline.

The Commander-in-chief remits the punishment awarded Major Brown, and desires that he may be released from arrest, and return to his duty.

By order of his Excellency the Commander-in-chief,

W. L. WATSON, Adj. Gen. of Army.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Territorial Department.

Jan. 19. Mr. C. G. Mansell, assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in Western Provinces.

Feb. 1. Mr. P. M. Wynch, collector of stamps in Calcutta.

Mr. E. Stirling, collector of Agra.

8. Mr. A. Spiers, an assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue in Central Provinces.

Mr. Charles M. Caldecott, ditto ditto.

15. Mr. Jas. Armstrong, collector of Goruckpore.

Mr. R. J. Taylor, ditto of Rajeshahye.

Political Department.

Feb. 2. Mr. W. T. Robertson, to be principal assistant to agent to governor-general in Saugor and Nerbudda territories.

Judicial Department.

Feb. 1. Mr. W. P. Okenen, 1st register of Zilla Court at Moradabad.

Mr. H. Pidcock, 2d register of ditto ditto.

Mr. G. M. Batten, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Allahabad.

8. Mr. James Shaw, magistrate of Nuddeah.

Mr. G. C. Cheap, ditto of Burdwaun.

Mr. A. Heyland, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Nuddeah.

15. Mr. C. G. Udny, 1st assistant to register of Courts of Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut.

Mr. F. J. Halliday, 2d assistant to ditto ditto.

Mr. J. R. Colvin, 3d assistant to ditto ditto.

Mr. J. A. M. Mills, extra assistant to ditto ditto.

Mr. A. C. Jackson, assistant to magistrate and to collector of Behar.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENT.

Feb. 8. The Rev. David Garrow, district chaplain at Cuttack.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Jan. 26, 1827.—Maj. Gen. Sir S. F. Whittingham appointed to staff of presidency of Bengal.

Feb. 2.—Cadets E. Hay, F. C. Brooke, and J. Bonten admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. A. Gilmore, W. Heath, and M. O'Donnoghue admitted as assist. surgeons.

Lieut. Jas. Bunyon, 6th extra N.I., to have rank of capt. by brevet from 23d Jan. 1827.

Lieut. F. Warwick, 5th N.I., transferred to pension establishment.

Head-Quarters, Jan. 27, 1827.—Ens. Wm. Shaw to do duty with 52d instead of 54th N.I., as formerly directed.

Jan. 30.—Maj. Gen. Sir S. F. Whittingham to command Cawnpore division of army.

Artillery Regiment. 2d-Lieut. G. H. McGregor posted to 10th comp. 6th bat. and 2d-Lieut. J. Whitefoord posted to 12th comp. 6th bat.

Ens. H. S. Grimes removed from 39th to 33d N.I., at his own request.

Fort William, Feb. 2.—4th N.I. Capt. J. Holbrow to be major, Lieut. G. R. Wilton to be capt. of

of a comp., and Ens. N. Vicary to be lieut., from 25th June 1826.

The exchange of appointments (dated 20th Jan.) between Assist.surgs. Graham and Tweddell cancelled.

Feb. 6.—Mr. W. K. M^L. Rose admitted an assist.surg. on establishment.

Feb. 9.—5th N.I. Ens. J. O. Owen to be lieut. from 2d Feb., v. Warwick transf. to pension estab.

Cadet A. Tucker admitted to cav., and prom. to cornet.—Cadets C. Thorald, T. Gifford, F. C. Minchin, and W. Young admitted to inf., and prom. to ensigns.—Messrs. W. Spencer and W. L. Dunlop admitted as assist. surgs.

Head-Quarters, Feb. 3.—Cornet T. F. Beatson to do duty with 10th L.C.

Feb. 8.—Sappers and Miners. Lieut. B. Y. Reilly to be adj. v. Thompson app. to department of Public Works.

3d N.I. Lieut. J. R. Bigge to be interp. and qu.mast., v. Martin dec.

4th N.I. Lieut. W. Y. Torckler to be interp. and qu.mast., v. Doveton app. to commissariat.

15th N.I. Lieut. John Evans to be adj., v. Troup promoted.

37th N.I. Lieut. C. Griffith to be interp. and qu.mast., v. Harrington proceeding to Europe.

Port William, Feb. 9.—Maj. Gen. G. H. Pine to be vice president of Military Board.

Head-Quarters, Feb. 10.—Assist.surg. W. Heath to do duty with depôt at Chinsurah.

Feb. 12.—Lieut. Dwyer, of European Invalids, permitted to reside at Monghyr.

Surg. J. J. Paterson removed from 44th to 20th N.I., and Surg. T. Crichton from 20th to 44th do.

Assist. surgs. appointed. J. H. Palsgrave to 44th N.I.; F. Funnell to 52d do.; T. P. Wynne to 40th do.

Surgeons appointed. Jos. Duncan to 3d N.I.; T. W. Webb to 7th do.

Feb. 14.—Lieut. and Adj. Cowley, 35th N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign adjutancy.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

Head-Quarters, Jan. 15.—Lieut. H. Nicholson, 1st Foot, and Lieut. M. S. H. Lloyd, 2d ditto, to be capt. by brevet in East-Indies only.

Jan. 24.—Col. and Lieut. Col. Willoughby Cotton, 47th Foot, to be qu.mast.gen. to King's army, v. Maj. Gen. Sir S. F. Whittingham rem. to general staff on Bengal estab.

Cornet Cotton, 16th Lancers, to be extra aide-de-camp to commander-in-chief.

Feb. 5.—Lieut. Calne, 3d Buffs, to be aide-de-camp to Maj. Gen. Sir S. F. Whittingham.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Feb. 2. Lieut. Col. H. S. Pepper, 6th N.I., on private affairs.—1st Lieut. and Brev. Capt. J. Johnson, of artil., on ditto.—Cornet J. Farmer, 9th L.C., for health.—6. Lieut. J. Iverson, 7th N.I., for health.—14. Capt. R. L. Anstruther, 6th L.C., on private affairs.—Surg. T. Crichton, for health.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Feb. 14. Capt. A. F. Dingwall, 19th N.I., for twelve months, for health.

HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

To Europe.—Jan. 24. Lieut. Col. Campbell, 14th F., for health.—Brev. Maj. Blashopp, 14th F., for health.—Brev. Capt. Haslewood, 14th F., on private affairs.—27. Lieut. Cooper, 11th L. Dr., for health.—Lieut. Newman, 14th F., on private affairs.—Feb. 1. Capt. Young, 89th F., ditto.—5. Brev. Capt. Campbell, 46th F., for health.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TOUR OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

The Calcutta Government Gazette of February 12, contains a long and interesting *Asiatic Journ.* Vol. 24. No. 140.

resting journal of the progress of the Governor-General after leaving Bareilly, from which we extract some passages, giving a more full account than in our last of the objects described.

"On the morning of the 8th January the Governor-General entered Agra. The character of the country seemed to change as we approached the once flourishing capital of the Mogul empire. The cultivated plains of the Doab were succeeded by deep and rugged ravines, whose barren and desolate aspect corresponded well with the melancholy and ruinous condition of the imperial city. The beautiful Taj, with its marble domes and graceful minarets, shining white in the morning sun, was the first object which struck the eye and indicated our vicinity to Agra. The entrance lay by the Ram Bagh, formerly called the Noor Jehan Bagh, whose gardens were originally laid out for the relaxation and pleasure of the beautiful and talented Noor Jehan, and which are still kept up with care, though not perhaps with their original splendour. A little farther on we passed the tomb of Noor Jehan's father, who held the office of Etimad Dowleh, or prime minister to Jehangier. It is an interesting building, and the mosaic floors and enamelled roofs are singularly curious and beautiful; but it is fast falling a victim to the ravages of man as well as to those of time. On approaching the bridge of boats which had been thrown across the Jumna, the fort of Agra appeared before us in massive and imposing grandeur, one of the few buildings of the time of Utkur which still remain unimpaired as a record of Mogul greatness. The river, winding to the left of the fort, flows past the skeletons of palaces and desolate gardens, formerly inhabited by the Omrahs, and the scenes of many an hour of "civil revelry, or of rural-mirth." Crossing the bridge of boats, we passed the Moobarik Munzil, now the custom-house, but which, in days of yore, was the palace, where the emperors collected their numerous train, previous to undertaking a journey to any place eastward of the city.

"In the evening of the same day Lord and Lady Amherst drove to the Taj, to visit that, which, of all the wonders of the world, is perhaps the most truly beautiful. The pyramids of Egypt may overwhelm the mind with their stupendous magnitude and mysterious antiquity; the caves of Ellora, with their unbuilt temple of Kylas, carved from the solid mountain block where it stands, may well astonish us with the proof of what mighty undertakings human labour and art are capable of effecting, when propelled by the impulse of religious enthusiasm; and the glorious St. Peter's may overawe and delight with its magnificent and harmonious

combination of sublimity and beauty; but the marble tomb of the lovely Taj-Muhul, different from all and incomparable with any, lifts its snowy domes and stately minarets in "eloquent proportions," into the blue sky, the unparalleled tomb of an unparalleled princess. To attempt a description would be to "describe the indescribable," and would prove alike tedious and unprofitable. Its situation on the banks of the Jumna is peculiarly striking, commanding a fine view of the massive and majestic fort, and overlooking on every side the innumerable ruins of palaces, tombs, and mosques, which were yet in their splendour when the Taj was built. Even at Rome there cannot be more numerous remains than there are at Agra. The deep ravines, which intersect the city and neighbourhood, and several low hills, which are here and there distinguishable, all appear to have been formed by the ruins of successive cities; but while all has crumbled or is passing away; while empires, like palaces, have been overthrown; the Taj still stands in all its pristine beauty and brightness, looking down upon the decaying skeleton of the city around it, like some spirit watching over the mouldering body it had loved.

"Early in the morning of the 10th his Lordship and family visited the fort, where the palaces of emperors, in indifferent repair, still remain overlooking the Jumna. The Amkhas or hall of audience is now converted into an arsenal, and thousands of hostile arms of different kinds now occupy the place where formerly the sword of justice alone presided. The marble baths falling to decay, no longer echo the laugh of the beauties of the seraglio; and the Ayina Muhul, or looking-glass department, with its glittering fountains, cascade, and illumination of a hundred lamps, no longer affords enjoyment or luxury to the queens of the harem. You pass along the marble walks of gardens, and pace the empty apartments and galleries of the zenana, where once it was death for man to tread; and you find the snake, the owl, and the parrot, the only inmates of the mouldering palace of the Great Ukbur. After leaving the fort, we proceeded to visit the Joomah Musjid, opposite to the Delhi gate. It is a large and handsome mosque, and being situated on a rising ground, forms a picturesque object from every point of view.

"Early in the morning of the following day we visited Secundra, the mausoleum of Ukbur the Great, the most liberal and enlightened of the Mogul sovereigns; but who, not satisfied with all the glory and fame attainable by a mere mortal, was desirous of blending with it the exalted veneration which is due only to the deity.

"In the evening of January 15, Lady

Amherst held a drawing-room, if it may be so termed, at which her ladyship received a deputation of eight Mahratta ladies, sent to wait upon her by her highness the Baceza Bace, with complimentary messages and presents. No gentlemen were allowed to be present, or within eye-shot of these moons of the harem, who are ever enveloped in clouds, that they may not bestow upon the ungodly face of man that light which belongs only to their sun—their husband. The drawing-room, however, it is understood, went off capitally; the Indian ladies were delighted with every thing they saw; the room, the furniture, the pictures, but above all the blazing fire, in particular, attracted their violent admiration; and so fascinated were they with the English ladies, whom no doubt they thought "hideously white," that nothing could persuade them to take leave till it was reported that some gentlemen were approaching, when they fled like ghosts at the approach of morn."

His Lordship reached Futtehpore Sikri on the 19th January. A heavy fall of rain occasioned the party to halt for two or three days longer than had been proposed. At this place the Governor-general received and returned the visit of the Rana of Dolepore, who had proceeded from his territory on the banks of the Chumbul to pay his respect to his Lordship.

The 24th having been fixed for his Lordship's arrival at Bhurtpore, the young Raja came out a distance of several miles, with a numerous retinue, to meet the Governor-general, and conduct him to his tents. The Raja visited the Governor-general in his tents on the same day, and was received with suitable honours.

On the following evening the Governor-general, Lady Amherst, and the whole of the suite, proceeded to the palace to partake of a grand entertainment. His Lordship entered by the Cumbheer gate under a salute of cannon, from whence to the citadel the streets were brilliantly illuminated. The illuminations in front of and within the palace displayed unusual taste and splendour; an excellent dinner had been prepared for the occasion, at which about sixty English gentlemen and ladies were present. The Maharaja, Bulwant Singh, sat between Lord and Lady Amherst, under a handsome canopy of scarlet broad-cloth, richly embroidered, and on the opposite side of the table the regent ministers took their seats, on either side of the political agent, Major Lockett. The entertainment was conducted throughout in the most superior style, and gave the highest satisfaction.

On the 26th the young Raja and ministers were present at a dinner given by the Right Hon. the Governor-general in his tents, and took leave. The following morning

morning his Lordship marched from Bhurtpore, intending to proceed *vid* Cumbheer, Deeg, and Goverdhun to Muttra. At Muttra his Lordship was to receive the visit of the Prince Mirza Selim, the fourth and favourite son of H. M. Akber Shah, who has been deputed by the King to express H. M.'s desire for an interview with the Governor-general.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Feb. 15.*]

ENTERTAINMENT AT DUM DUM.

The dinner and ball given at Dum Dum by Col. Macleod, C.B., and the officers of the artillery, to his Exc. the Right Hon. Lord Combermere, went off, on Wednesday evening (the anniversary of the fall of Bhurtpore), with the highest spirit and eclat. The health of the noble guest, given by Lieut. Col. Macleod, was drank with the utmost enthusiasm; when his Lordship returned thanks in a very handsome and courteous manner, and highly flattering to the gallant artillery corps. On the health of Col. Macleod and the artillery being given by Lord Combermere, Lieut. Col. Macleod shortly returned thanks; Lieut. Col. Swiney likewise acknowledged the honour conferred on the corps by the handsome terms in which the Commander-in-chief had spoken of it, and paid a warm and well-deserved tribute of praise to the military career and character of Lord Combermere, a name enrolled in the history of his country among the heroes who, under the command of Wellington, achieved the liberty of Europe from the yoke of France.

The fireworks were on a scale of great magnitude and splendour, and went off in a style of the first excellence, doing great credit to the officers whose pyrotechnical talents had been called into requisition on this gay occasion. A representation of the storming of Bhurtpore had all the fire and fury of a real attack and cannonade, and might convey to us peaceable citizens no indifferent notion of the terrible doings of the field of war. Stars, transparencies, trees of fire, gigantic pagodas of flame, &c. &c. diversified the brilliant scene, while the splendid rocket shed his fiery glories across the heavens, obscuring for a moment the lustre of the stars themselves. "That is all," sent the party appropriately enough to the ball-room, which was filled with all the fashion and beauty of the presidency.—[*Cal. John Bull, Jan. 25.*]

CALCUTTA BIBLE ASSOCIATION.

The fifth anniversary meeting of the Calcutta Bible Association was held at the Town Hall on the 12th Jan. The Venerable Archdeacon Corrie took the chair, and after stating shortly the object of the meeting, called upon the Rev. J. Statham

to read the report of the proceedings of the last year, prepared by the committee. It appeared from it, that the committee had, during the past year, disposed of 3,458 copies of the Bible, and of single portions of it, so that the sum total brought into circulation by this Association since its formation amounts to 18,946 copies. The following institutions have been assisted by gratuitous grants of English Bibles and Testaments: the Marine School, the Bethel Society, the Schools of the Benevolent Institution in Calcutta, the European Female Orphan Asylum, and the Juvenile Society. The teachers of the Philanthropic Academy have been supplied with Armenian Bibles for distribution among their countrymen. By supplying missionaries and superintendents of native schools with the Scriptures in Bengalee, required by them, the Bible Association has proved an auxiliary to the following societies: the Ladies' Society and Ladies' Association for promoting Native Female Education, the Bengal Christian School Society, the Society for Propagating the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the Calcutta Auxiliary Church Missionary Society and Church Missionary Association, the Bengal Auxiliary (London) Missionary Society, and the Calcutta Auxiliary Baptist Missionary Society. The income of the Society during the past year, however, has been smaller than during any of the five preceding years, since it has amounted only to 3,167 rupees, whereas in each of the two first years it amounted nearly to 6,000 rupees.

DISPUTES BETWEEN THE ZEMINDARRY RYOTS.

It gives us much pleasure to hear the manifestations of gratitude to Mr. Smith, the magistrate of the Hoogly district, for his upright and unwearied administration of justice. We need no apology for laying some instances before our readers. This gentleman, sympathizing in the distresses of the unfortunate ryots who are crushed beneath the tyrannical authority of the zemindars, visited the mofussil villages under his jurisdiction, and summoning their inhabitants, signed their former agreements for land held under the zemindars, and promulgated a regulation for the purpose of establishing those rates, that they might no longer be liable to the extortion of the native landholders, and further directing that in any instance where the land-holders should attempt such extortion, the injured parties should receive justice at his hands on application to the court. The effects of such an order on the population, and the high estimation in which it has caused this gentleman to be held, may be more easily conceived than described.—[*Temirah Nasuck.*]

MEER ASHRUFF ALLI.

The meritorious conduct and active exertions of Meer Ashruff Alli, a respectable zemindar of the Dacca division, in furnishing supplies and otherwise facilitating the movements of the British troops in progress to the eastern frontier, during the late war, which procured for him highly creditable testimonies from various civil and military officers, having been brought to the notice of Government by Mr. Ahmuty, senior judge of the provincial court, in last June, the Governor-general in Council resolved, previous to his Lordship's departure from the presidency, to confer on that individual some honorary distinction, in acknowledgment of his services. In compliance accordingly with the Meer's solicitation, it was determined to grant the titles of *Khan* and *Bahadoor* to each of his two sons, with suitable *khe-latas* and the privilege of carrying silver sticks. The 21st Oct. having been fixed on as an auspicious day for the investiture, that ceremony was performed at noon of the same day in the provincial court-house, which had been previously fitted up for the occasion. The principal European, Greek, and Armenian residents of the place, as also a large concourse of the most respectable native inhabitants, attended, and appeared to evince great interest in the scene, Mr. Ahmuty explaining to all present the ground on which the above marks of favour and distinction were bestowed.—[*Gov. Gaz. Jan. 15.*

FORGERY.

A forgery to a very large amount, it is said two lacs, has been committed by a native salt-dealer, by depositing forged rowannahs as securities for borrowed money, with which he has eloped. We understand the sufferers are his own countrymen, and some of them not very well able to afford the loss. The increase of this crime seems here, as well as in Europe, to keep pace with the extension of commerce, and it is easier to regret it, than to devise any effectual means of preventing its frequency.—[*Beng. Hurk. Jan. 6.*

PAPER CURRENCY.

From the proceedings amongst the native bankers of Calcutta, which will be found amongst our extracts from native papers (see p. 94), it should seem that they have not learned to appreciate the merits of a paper currency, and that they are creating obstacles to the circulation of bank notes amongst them. The real grounds of their objections, we suspect, do not appear, but we are not surprised at their occurrence, for paper circulation, like other European improvements, is

perhaps urged a little prematurely upon Indian practice. In the late demand for cash, the bankers have probably discovered that paper is not always an equivalent for specie, and it is but natural therefore they should question its advantages beyond that of portability. We are not quite sure that some check to the issue of paper was not required, and think it not impossible that the scarcity of money, which has of late been occasionally felt, has been attributable in some degree to an excessive paper issue. It is not possible to take an accurate view of the fluctuations of the money market of Calcutta, from the want of a number of data, which although it may not be impossible, it is difficult, to procure. Even the amount of the currency required for the internal transactions of the capital is matter of extreme uncertainty, and, until this is estimated within some reasonable degree of approximation, it is idle to speculate upon the causes of the vicissitudes which it seems to experience; we know neither the reality nor extent.

It is clear however that every issue of bank notes must form an addition to the amount, or it must supply the place with specie; it probably does both. There can be little doubt of a progressive rise in the articles of domestic consumption in Calcutta for some years past: this may have been attributable to increased demand in part, but the proportionate increase in the supply has probably balanced this stimulus, and the continued enhancement of price can only arise from the depreciation of the currency. It does not seem likely however that any very great accession has been made to the circulating medium of Calcutta, or prices would have risen still higher, and the bank notes in circulation, which during some time past have been much more numerous than heretofore, have therefore displaced the specie. Part of the coin may be imagined to be in the coffers of those by whom the notes have been issued, but a portion, and a large one, must be somewhere else. The paper currency exercising little or no influence beyond the limits of Calcutta, specie continues there to form the circulating medium, and is in constant demand. Thither accordingly it will have been driven, and as the balance of trade is considerably against the presidency, thither it will continue to flow as long as its presence can be dispensed with in Calcutta. Under ordinary circumstances this would be a matter of little moment: but as long as a radical difference subsists between the state of currency in Calcutta and in the provinces, it may be as well to use caution in banishing that specie to the latter, which, when it is required, can only be tempted back by disproportionate sacrifices.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Feb. 8.*

STEAM NAVIGATION.

It is asserted from good authority, that Mr. Thomas Waghorn, of the Bengal Pilot Establishment, has proceeded to England on the ship *Reaper*, in the expectation of establishing between Falmouth and Madras and Bengal a steam mail packet. The vessel is to be built after the model of the Leith smacks, of 200 or 220 tons, and to be provided with two twenty-five-horse-power engines; her mast is to be so constructed as to lower down on the deck in case of head winds, and the funnel is also to be lowered at pleasure. Every thing that can is to be sacrificed to expedition. She will carry no passengers, nor is live stock of any kind to be taken on board. The captain and nineteen of a crew are to mess together, and potted meats to be laid in, and all provisions to be stowed on deck until room is made below. By these means the utmost room possible for the stowage of coals is to be afforded; and it is expected the vessel will carry fifty days' consumption. Thirty tons of coals are to be stowed in as many iron receptacles, so that as ballast becomes requisite from the consumption of the engines, water may be pumped in. Measures to ensure that no delay beyond a few hours shall occur at the Cape are also to be taken; and in seventy days from the vessel leaving the Thames she is to be seen on the Hooghly. — [*Mad. Gov. Gaz. Feb. 22.*]

APPRENTICING SOCIETY.

Yesterday the second annual meeting of the members of the Apprenticing Society took place at the Town Hall. George Ballard, Esq. having taken the chair, read the report of the committee's exertions during the past year. After he had finished the reading of the report, he said that the committee did not intend to interfere with the religion of the boys, and that each apprentice was at liberty to attend to the precepts of his own faith.

Mr. Kyd having brought his apprentices forward, thought their healthy state spoke how their work had agreed with them. The first year of their apprenticeship they had been much subject to fever, but they had enjoyed exceeding good health during the past year.

On the motion of Mr. C. Blaney, seconded by the Rev. W. Adam, the thanks of the meeting were returned to the committee for their past labours, which had given so much satisfaction, and a continuance of their kind exertions solicited. — [*Beng. Hurk., Feb. 3.*]

PARLEY ROCKETS.

We have been favoured with a communication from Meerut, affording very satisfactory testimony to the efficacy of Major

Parlby's rockets. Twenty-four of his 32-pounder rockets, and twelve 18-pounders, were discharged without a single failure. They were fired with saul shafts, only twelve feet long, and at the following elevations gave the ranges severally attached. Three rockets were fired from each elevation.

32-Pounders.

Elevation.	Average Range. Yards.
20°	1,000
25°	1,120
30°	1,080
35°	1,600
40°	2,080
45°	2,210
50°	2,283
54°	2,123

18-Pounders.

20°	1,308
25°	2,133
30°	2,833
35°	2,870

We understand that General Reynel, who was on the ground, expressed himself highly satisfied with the success of these formidable weapons. — [*Cal. Gov. Gaz., Feb. 13.*]

BIBLIOMANIA.

Crocker's translation of Ariosto was sold by public auction, on Thursday last, for four hundred and thirty rupees! This instance will certainly redeem the British public of India, in some measure, from the imputation of literary apathy, with which they have hitherto been charged. — [*Beng. Hurk., Jan. 27.*]

THE STRAND ROAD TO GARDEN REACH.

We are happy to find that the great public convenience of a strand road to Garden Reach is likely to have a substantial existence, and that arrangements are in progress, intended to provide for it. The measure, generally, has received, we understand, the sanction of the supreme authority; and the Lottery Committee have been referred to for a plan, and estimate of the expense of constructing the road in question. The expense, we believe, is the only part of the plan likely to create any difficulty, and all objections of a military nature have been withdrawn. — [*Cal. Gov. Gaz., Feb. 1.*]

THE PERIODICAL PRESS.

Some stir has taken place in Calcutta, in respect to a portion of the periodical press. The proprietor of the *Bengal Chronicle* (formerly the *Columbian Press Gazette*) having fallen under the displeasure of Government in consequence of some indecorous remarks in that paper, prayed the lenity of the Vice President, and engaged to dismiss his editor (named Suther-

Sutherland) if his license was not revoked, pleading his own poverty, his illiterateness, that his editor was imprudent, and that his family would be ruined. The Government agreed to the proposal, which was accompanied by a solemn declaration that no future offence should be given. The editor, accordingly, took leave of the readers of the *Chronicle*, stating that "his connection with the *Calcutta Press* was dissolved." Mr. Adam succeeded him; but it subsequently appeared that Sutherland had arranged that he was to keep up his connection with the paper, to "do as much as ever for it," and to divide the profits of editor. Such a specimen of the dealing of the radicals of Calcutta is not much to their credit, and justifies suspicion and vigilance on the part of the Government to obviate imposition. Mr. Adam, who appears to have felt repugnance at becoming a party to such a disgraceful proceeding, soon broke off with the proprietor (whose name is Rosario); but his successor, Rogers, seems to have acquiesced; and in a letter from Sutherland to Rosario, which has been published, the former declares he contributed to the paper ever since Mr. Adam assumed the charge of it, and claims half the salary of editor! Mr. Adam has set up a new paper, on the principles of the *Bengal Chronicle*, entitled the *Calcutta Chronicle*, to be published three times a week. As this gentleman is reputed to be a man of talent and a scholar, we congratulate ourselves on the prospect of seeing that part of the press opposed to Government conducted with ability. The *Bengal Chronicle* is now published by the proprietors of the *Hurkaru*.

The *Calcutta John Bull*, after animadverting upon the parties concerned in this transaction, subjoins the following paragraph:

"Since writing the above, the *Calcutta Chronicle* has noticed at some length the *exposé* made by the *Bengal Chronicle*. We are not here concerned with the part in the drama which fell to the share of the respectable individual who conducts the *Calcutta Chronicle*. We believe he would do nothing which he was not satisfied was strictly honest and honourable: and with his employment of what assistance he pleases, provided the Press Regulations are observed, we are not disposed to think that authority will interfere. But we must say, that the duplicity on the face of the correspondence to which we have alluded, has not received from the *Calcutta Chronicle* that notice which it deserved. That Rosario should receive his *leading articles* from Sutherland, after his letter to Government, and that he should even negotiate with him for selling him a third share in the *Chronicle*, is a piece of the most barefaced roguery ever practised, and only surpassed by the unprincipled impudence

of being himself the publisher of his own shame."—*Feb. 5.*

DEBTORS.

We are glad to observe that the Chief Justice has signified his entire approbation of the measures now in agitation to bring relief to the unfortunate debtors confined in the gaol of Calcutta. The same important subject has attracted attention at the sister presidency of Madras; and a presentment by the grand jury has brought the subject under the view of the court there. The Madras judges, as might be anticipated, are favourable to a change in the law as it now affects unfortunate debtors; and we cannot doubt that some decisive measures will soon be adopted to carry the measure into effect. It is long ago since we took the liberty of hazarding a doubt, whether or not, as the law now stands, there is not a power in our courts to apply the remedy to the evil: the point, although obviously of the very first importance, still remains undecided.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Feb. 14.

SANSKRIT COLLEGE.

The distribution of the prizes to the pupils of the Sanskrit College was held on Saturday last, at the College Hall in Patul Dunga Square. The Honourable J. H. Harington, Esq., the President of the Committee of Public Instruction, was present, and distributed the rewards. A number of native gentlemen and pundits attended. The pupils of the literature and poetry classes represented the first act of the "Mrichhakatikā," or Toy Cart, with great humour and talent, and afforded much satisfaction to all present. After the distribution of the prizes, the secretary, Captain Price, read a short address to the pundits and pupils, expressive of the satisfaction of the committee with the progress made during the past year, and adverting to various topics connected with the past or future course of study. We are happy to find this College continues to flourish, as it is a principal link between the learned class of Hindus and their European masters, who are much less known to each other than might have been expected, or is to be wished. The College is also an object of interest to all the Hindu portion of the community, as they feel it to be their own.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Feb. 13.

THE EARTHQUAKE.

We understand that the late earthquake was felt with very unusual severity in Sylhet. Earthquakes are not uncommon at this station, but they are not of a nature, in general, to inspire the alarm which was felt on the present occasion. It occurred at forty minutes past 11 A. M., and was preceded

preceded by a rumbling noise as loud as that of a troop of horse artillery crossing the drawbridge of a fort. The undulations of the first shock were so violent as to bring down parts of several buildings, and injure others to such an extent that their tenants have been obliged to desert them. A second shock was experienced about half an hour after the first, but it was much weaker, and did no mischief. The earthquake of this season is considered by the oldest inhabitants of Sylhet to have been more violent than any since 1795, when one of great severity occurred there. —[*Ibid.*, Feb. 1.

UNITED SERVICE CLUB.

At a meeting held at the Town Hall, on the 1st of February 1827, in pursuance of the resolutions of the 29th of November last; present, C. Trower, Esq.; Hon. Lieut. Col. Finch; Lieut. Col. Bryant; Lieut. Col. Stevenson; Lieut. Col. Watson; Col. Hodgson; Col. Cunliffe; Major Maling; Capt. Jackson; Capt. Oliphant; Capt. Baker; Mr. Wynch.

Resolved, That the club be considered to be formed from this day, and that the gentlemen now present, as well as those not so, who attended the meeting of the 29th November last, and other gentlemen, the Right Hon. Stapleton Lord Combermere, G. C. B.; Sir Charles Metcalfe, Bart.; Brigadier O'Halloran; Lieut. Col. Anbury; Brig. Major Honeywood; Lieut. Col. Dawkins; Lieut. Col. D. C. Baddeley; Lieut. Col. Parkes; Capt. G. C. Mundy; Capt. J. Cheape; Capt. W. Burlton; Capt. Mackinly; Capt. F. Jenkins; Capt. White; Capt. C. M. Cox; Lieut. Dougan; Lieut. J. N. Forbes; Lieut. J. P. Macdougall; Lieut. W. Hislop; Lieut. J. Mackenzie; Messrs. D. Scott, G. T. Metcalfe, R. N. Hamilton, H. Moore, Briscoe, Wollen, and P. Y. Lindsay, civil service; and Dr. James Ranken, Messrs. Forbes and Watson, medical service; who have signified their wish to belong to the club, be considered original members of it.

That his Excellency Lord Combermere be requested, by a deputation from the club, to become the patron of it.

That the number of members (for the present) be limited to five hundred, one hundred of whom to be eligible from gentlemen not in the service of his Majesty or the Hon. Company.

That Messrs. Mackintosh and Co. be requested to accept the office of treasurers to the club.

That the following gentlemen be appointed a committee:—Sir C. Metcalfe, Bart.; C. Trower, Esq.; H. T. Prinsep, Esq.; the Hon. J. Elliott; Hon. Lieut. Col. Finch; Lieut. Col. Stevenson; Lieut. Col. Watson; Lieut. Col. Bryant; Col.

Cunliffe; Capt. Oliphant; Capt. Jackson; E. Molony, Esq.; P. Wynch, Esq.; for the purpose of framing rules and regulations for the management of the club. The same to be submitted on the 1st of March next, to a general meeting to be held at the Town Hall for that purpose.

On the 2d, a deputation consisting of Col. Stevenson, Mr. Trower, Col. Wilson, and Col. Cunliffe, waited upon Lord Combermere, and requested his Lordship's patronage of the proposed institution. His Lordship readily accepted the office of patron, and was pleased to express himself much interested in the success of the project. —[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Feb. 8.

BENGAL MILITARY FUND.

The general meeting of the subscribers of the Military Fund was held on the 20th Jan. The accounts of the past year were approved, and directors elected for the ensuing year.

The capital of the fund, on the 30th April 1826, exceeded sixteen lacs.

NEW THEORY OF EARTHQUAKES.

The *Udanta Martanda* of Tuesday has suggested a new theory for the occurrence, if not of earthquakes in general, for that which happened in last week, and attributes it to the shocks which public credit has sustained by mercantile failures and frauds. The transactions alluded to are, with one or two exceptions, rather indistinctly hinted at, and we cannot pretend to judge of the accuracy of the premises which warrant the editor's inference, that the earth was thrown off its balance by these occurrences, and trembled beneath the burthen of the iniquity of the Burra-bazar. —[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Jan. 25.

RUNJEET SINGH.

The health of this celebrated chieftain seems, from all accounts, to be in a very precarious state. The scanty particulars afforded by the Ukhbars, and native newspapers of Bengal, give but little information upon this point, which, considering the present unsettled state of affairs in that part of India, and the certainty of serious commotions when his death takes place, is a matter of much interest. A Bairagi named Raghunath, reputed to be a physician of great skill, has been sent to the Maharajah by the governor of Dinanagar; and it is said that Runjeet was much relieved by the medicines the Bairagi administered. The physician prescribed the immediate return of his patient to Lahore; and Runjeet, who was superintending operations against the refractory chief of Pesbawar, left one of his Mahkims to command the army, and reached Lahore on the 18th December last. Soon after, Dr. Murray arrived from Loodianah

to give his advice to the Maharajah. He had an interview with him, and has since returned. The disorder of Runjeet is an organic affection of the liver, and recent accounts received at Calcutta from Kurnaul, state that he is not expected to live many months. Meanwhile the chief is employed in expedients to restore health, which he probably thinks most efficacious: he has given orders to the governor of the holy city of Amritsur to gild the silver doors of the Ram Ragh, and to distribute 17,000 rupees to the Brahmans.

In addition to his other foes, Runjeet has now to contend with the Bhels, who, to the number of 3,000, have invaded the province of Khyrabad, the governor of which has found himself unable to cope with them, as they receive constant reinforcements from the hills. The French officers have accordingly been despatched with a body of troops to his assistance. Every month's intelligence from this quarter is important.

SUTTEE.

The *Shems ul-Akhbar* contains the following account of a suttee at Poona, where such scenes were rare under the Peishwa's government.

"The Kotwal reported that a man of the Chourassia tribe having died, his widow, a woman of twenty-nine years of age, had resolved to burn herself with the corpse of her husband, but that her family opposed it, and when their solicitations were ineffectual, locked her up in the chamber; that having left her thus secured, *the doors flew open of their own accord*, no person having approached them. The Resident desired that she might again be expostulated with; and after a time her relations appeared and stated that their remonstrances only made her more obstinate. The Resident accordingly ordered the Kotwal to accompany the woman to prevent any violence or disturbance."

RELIGIOUS PROSPECTS IN BENGAL.

Messrs. Tyerman and Bennet, of the London Missionary Society, thus write from Calcutta, under date December 2, 1826:

"By the concurrent testimony of all ranks and parties, the change for the better in India, within twenty or twenty-five years, has been surprisingly great, both as it respects the manners and practices of the natives and Europeans. Worldly, irreligious persons acknowledge the change, and confess that it has been a good thing to have such an increase of clergymen and churches in different parts of Bengal, the Upper Provinces, &c. The truly serious and intelligently observant part of society here see and acknowledge, that this more valuable amelioration has re-

sulted from the Divine Providence having disposed the minds of Christians to send out so many pious and devoted missionaries of the different Protestant denominations, who have borne a steady, faithful, and scriptural testimony against vice and ignorance, whether in natives or Europeans, and in favour of truth and pity. This has been also very greatly aided by the faithful labours of many of the clergy, who have not come out as missionaries, but whose zeal for the diffusion of divine truth amongst the heathens is most pleasingly displayed. The degree of union, and disposition to co-operate in works of piety and benevolence, which exists in these parts, has very much strengthened the hands of all Christian parties, and increased the friends of each. And if this spirit of Christian union continue and increase, it must very greatly aid the march of Gospel truth and holiness through these regions, and proportionally tend to disarm the enemy of some of his more formidable weapons.

"Although there are no indications of a Christian sabbath to be seen in the streets or market-places of this large, populous, and very splendid city, business and labours of every kind being pursued on the Sunday precisely as on any other day; yet, there is great good continually being done by the different Christian societies. A numerous company of faithful and excellent ministers preach the Gospel, and administer the ordinances of the Christian religion from sabbath to sabbath, and on several evenings of the week besides. The places of religious worship, both in and out of the establishment, are respectively attended, and have many serious members of their churches and devout communicants."

The observations of these gentlemen at their first visit to Allahabad are as follow:

"The Hindoo temples and Mohammedan mosques are here, as almost every where, numerous. Some shocking instances of absurd superstitious worship we saw whilst here. We happened to be visiting a very handsomely built stone temple, covered with well-executed sculpture of their idols, *holy persons*, &c. in stone the highest relief. In this temple are seen stone idols representing the serpent, the bra capella. The largest, which represents a serpent twelve feet long, coiled into a sort of Gordian knot, and very well cut, is the principal object of worship in this temple. While we were looking at this stone snake, a horrid looking man, unclothed, rushed in (he was about twenty-five years old), being covered with the ashes of burnt ordure, and his huge quantity of hair matted with mud and dust. His eyes appeared inflamed; he bowed before the serpent, then prostrated himself, then respectfully touched his head; looked fixedly

fixedly upon the serpent, prostrated himself again, then touched it, and rushed out, as if in a paroxysm of delight at the thought of having worshipped this thing! When he got out of the temple he walked all round within the verandah, and having once more bowed at the door of the temple, he departed with a hurried step. We cannot conceive of any human being having more the appearance of a demoniac than this miserable creature, who, nevertheless, is regarded by the poor Hindoos as one of the holiest of men.

“Mr. Mackintosh (an Indo-Briton and Baptist missionary) informed us that, in this part of India, there are now none of those suttees of which formerly there were many. He observed that he never knew instances here of infants being exposed in trees, or thrown into the Ganges, nor of parents brought down to the river, and, having their mouths, ears, &c. filled with the mud of the Ganges, left to die. But Mr. M. took us to see some tombs of persons who had procured themselves to be buried alive, as the most immediate way to heaven. The last of these shocking interments took place about seventy years ago. Another horrid form of self-murder has happily been put down by a regulation of the government, and the wise and firm application of it by the present truly worthy judge and magistrate, Mr. Colvin, who said he had not suffered any one to drown himself at the junction of the Ganges and the Jumna; having declared, that if any one assists another, either with a boat to assist in tying on the earthen pots, or helps the individual to throw himself into the river, the person or persons so acting shall be regarded as accessory to the murder, and be dealt with accordingly. An instance of this self-drowning, Mr. C. said, had not occurred since he has held the government of Allahabad; nor will he suffer either these or any other cruelties which are in his power to prevent. We rejoice also to state, that this is the sentiment of all such judges and magistrates as we have had intercourse with in the different districts. This, in connexion with the facts that the shackles of caste and Brahminical domination are much and obviously weakening, is a subject of sincere congratulation to the friends of humanity and piety.”—*Transactions*, p. 351.

OUDEYPOUR.

The following paragraph appears in a native paper, respecting an interview between Sir Charles Metcalfe and Jawan Singh, the son of the Rana of Oudeypour.

“Sir Charles Metcalfe having proceeded towards Oudeypour, was met at three miles from the city by the son of the Rana, Prince Jawan Singh, with his attendants,
Asiatic Journ. Vol. 24. No. 140.

to conduct him to the city. After exchanging compliments with the Prince, the cavalcades jointly moved forward, and when within the distance of one coast from Oudeypour, they were met by the Rana Bhim Sinh, with all his sirdars. Upon approaching the city the agent took his leave of the Rana and Prince, and repaired to the tents provided for his accommodation by Sheo Lal and Siva Sinh, by order of the Rana. In the interview with these officers, appointed on the Rana's part, the agent demanded payment of the three lacs and 85,000 rupees, the Company's six annas share of the Oudeypour contribution: to which the negotiators replied that the Rana's country was calculated to yield a revenue of no more than eight lacs, and that part of it was uncultivated, and that as long as this was the case, it would be difficult to pay the proportion agreed on. In reply it was observed, that the Company's officers were apprised that the Rana's net revenue was ten lacs, and the payment of three lacs therefore could not be dispensed with; the rest might remain on account. The negotiators then urged, that much of their master's territory was in the hands of the Raja of Joudpour and of Sindia and Holkar, which they hoped the influence of the British authorities would recover; but it was told them that the territory in question had been for a considerable period in the possession of the princes named, and that the claims ought to have been urged when the engagements recognizing their rights were entered into.”

THE STAMP DUTIES.

The supplement to the *Calcutta Government Gazette* of February 5 contains extracts from Regulation XII. 1826, imposing the stamp duties referred to in our last number. No duties are imposed on proceedings in the Supreme Court.

GENERAL MARTINE'S FUND.

The following extract of a letter, in reference to the judicial decision concerning the institution founded by the late Claude Martine (of which a full report was published in our last number, p. 80), appears in the *Calcutta Government Gazette*.

“I recollect, when a boy, seeing, and in part perusing, General Martine's will: I do not chuse to say how many years have elapsed since that period; but they are not a few, and I little expected ever to take a share in discussing how its provisions should be carried into effect. That so long an interval has passed, and nothing is yet done, is not wholly the fault of the Supreme Court, as they directed their notice to it only nine years ago; a very small proportion of the whole period of suspension.
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sion. However, better late than never; and there now seems some prospect that the bequest will cease to be confined much longer to the strong box of the master. The spell that has so long enchaind its faculties is threatened with dissolution, and it may now awake to life and utility. The question now is, how it may be best disposed of? I shall not follow the report into details, for it is impossible not to be startled at the threshold, and to demur to the general outline of the whole project. The revenue, after the buildings are erected, and which, although not a palace, should be such as to provide for the health and comfort of the children and the credit of the founder, is estimated at 30,000 rupees a year; for which some thirty boys and ten girls are to be educated in a plain, business sort of style, with a very few exceptions, in favour of decidedly marked talent. Each child, to be qualified as an apprentice to a trade, is therefore to cost 750 rupees a year, or 62.8 per month; an expense that is very far beyond the ordinary charge of private education, and the practice of all the public institutions in Calcutta. The ordinary charge for education of a plain elementary kind, and including ordinary board, is, I believe, thirty-two rupees a month; with extras, it may amount to forty; but this charge, which is one-third less than that proposed for the present charitable institution, comprises house-rent, which in the latter is provided for; bad debts, which cannot occur in the public institution, and which, as every master of a seminary knows, form a heavy deduction from his profit; and, lastly, his own profits: these three articles being deducted from the cost of board and education, leave it no more than one-third, or at most, one-half of the above stated sum, or from sixteen to twenty rupees a month. We shall very liberally allow for clothes if we add ten rupees a month to the latter, and at the very outside, therefore, the whole expense ought not to exceed thirty rupees a head, comprising education, maintenance, clothing, lodging, medicine, and supervision. In fact, I should have no objection to undertake it, if it were in my way, for twenty-five rupees, and should expect a very reasonable remuneration for my labour. At thirty rupees, however, we should have eighty children, instead of forty, on the foundation, and making an allowance for the difference of expense between boys and girls, and the greater economy with which the larger number of children can be taught and fed, I am fully satisfied that the income of the Martine Fund may well educate and maintain 100 children.

"The practice of private seminaries I have already adverted to; but now let us look to that of those which are of a more public nature. There is some difference,

I admit, between the cost of educating Christian and native children in this country, and so far a parallel may not be easily found in more than one or two instances; but those institutions at which the latter are taught will still afford some guide, in as far as they have expensive establishments and numerous pupils. The Mudressa has a salaried European superintendent and six or seven Moulavis on liberal allowances; it furnishes education to eighty scholars, of whom the juniors have eight rupees and the seniors sixteen rupees a month for maintenance: its revenue is 30,000 rupees. The Sanscrit College has a salaried European superintendent and a dozen pundits on liberal allowances; it educates about 140 pupils, of whom nearly 100 have allowances of five and eight rupees per month for maintenance, and its expenditure is less than 25,000 rupees a year. The Vidyalaya, again, which has an income altogether of about the same amount, has ten European teachers, and although it neither maintains, nor allows for maintenance, it educates three hundred scholars,—a number vastly more than sufficient to compensate for the difference of feeding and clothing forty.

"But, to take a case nearer to the point—that of the Free School, where we have superintendence, education, food, clothing, and medical attendance. I find by the report recently circulated, that the expenses of this establishment for the past year amount to 38,000 rupees, 8,000 more, therefore, than the Martine Fund allows. But the number of children at the seminary are two hundred and forty; allowing, consequently, most amply for any difference which it may be thought advisable to make in the scale of education. Before, therefore, any final measure is adopted, I hope some further inquiry may be instituted into the utmost possible extent of benefit which the amount of the annual income of General Martine's Fund is calculated to offer to the rising generation.

"AN OLD SCHOOLMASTER."

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Feb. 15. *Ann*, Worthington, from Madras.—19. *Rosella*, Pike, from London.

Departures from Calcutta.

Feb. 10. *Louisa*, Mackay, for Bencoolen.—20. *Susan*, Hamilton, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 10. At Haupper, near Meerut, the lady of Lieut. Col. Cassidy, H.M.'s 31st regt., of a son.
11. At Neermutch, the lady of Lieut. Col. Kennedy, 8th L.C., of a daughter.
12. At Chunar, the lady of John Tytler, Esq., of a daughter.
13. At Gorruckpore, the wife of C. Ridge, Esq., of a daughter.
20. At

20. At Nagpore, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. D. W. Fraser, Nagpore service, of a son.
 21. At Deyrah, in the Dhoon, the lady of Major F. Young, commanding, of a daughter.
 23. At Benares, Mrs. W. Rawstrone, of a daughter.
 25. At Benares, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Burford, 27th N.I., of a son and heir.
 30. At Howrah, Mrs. M. E. Fenwick, of a son.
 27. At Ellichpoor, the lady of Capt. R. Ridout, commanding 5th regt. Nizam's cavalry, of a daughter.
Feb. 3. At Lucknow, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Wyld, 14th N.I., of a daughter.
 7. The lady of James Armstrong, Esq., of the civil service, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- Feb. 1.* At Barrackpore, Lieut. G. M. Sherer, 57th N.I., to Jane, third daughter, of Brigadier O'Halloran, C.B., commanding the station.
 9. At the Cathedral, W. Fox, Esq., to Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. T. B. Scott.
 12. At St. John's Cathedral, Mr. H. Osborn, junior, surveyor, to Miss M. A. Hannah.

DEATHS.

- Jan. 15.* About two coss above Bogwangolah, the lady of Capt. Leddie, 30th regt. N.I.
 23. At sea, on board the *Roberts*, J. C. Burton, Esq., aged 47.
 30. Harriet Virginia, youngest daughter of the late Mr. A. Jewell, jun., of the Surveyor-general's Office.
 31. Mr. F. T. Francis, aged 23.
Feb. 2. At Hazareebaugh, on her way to the Upper Provinces, Frances, eldest daughter of the late Maj. Gen. Thomas, of the E.I.S., commanding at Cawnpore.
 13. At Chowringhee, R. M. Paye, Esq., aged 38.

Madras.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDER.

MERCANTILE SPECULATION.

Fort St. George, Jan. 12, 1827.—The following extract from a letter from the Hon. the Court of Directors in the Military Department, under date the 23d August 1826, is published in General Orders.

31. "We have lately approved and sanctioned a regulation of the Supreme Government, which directs that 'any military officer who may be proved summarily, to the satisfaction of the Governor-General in Council, to have been engaged in any mercantile or commercial speculation whatsoever, shall be held *ipso facto* incapable of serving, and shall be forthwith suspended and sent to Europe, with a recommendation to the Hon. the Court of Directors that he be dismissed from their army.'

32. "We direct that this regulation be adopted and enforced at your presidency."

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Feb. 1. Mr. H. Lacon, judge and criminal judge of Zillah of Chicacole.

Mr. R. Bayard, collector and magistrate of Ganjam.

Mr. J. T. Anstey, ditto of Rajahmundry.

Mr. S. Smith, sub-collector and assistant magistrate of Ganjam.

Mr. A. Maitland, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of northern division of Arcot.

7. Mr. A. D. Campbell, principal collector and magistrate of Tanjore.

15. Mr. R. Nelson, sub-collector and assistant magistrate of Tanjore.

22. Mr. J. Stokes, third member of Board of Revenue.

Mr. J. M. Macleod, secretary to government in revenue and judicial departments.

Mr. H. Chamier, secretary to government in public, &c. departments.

Mr. G. Garrow, judge and criminal judge of Zillah of Combaconum.

Mr. R. Rogers, assistant judge and joint criminal judge in Zillah of Salem.

Mr. E. B. Wrey, do. do. of Masulipatam.

Mr. H. T. Bushby, do. do. of Cuddapah.

Mr. C. M. Wish, do. do. of Malabar.

Mr. W. R. Taylor, do. do. of Madura.

Mr. T. E. J. Boileau, do. do. of Canara.

Mr. T. R. Wheatley, sub-collector and joint magistrate in Malabar.

Mr. J. C. Wroughton, head assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Madura.

Sir James Home, Bart., deputy accountant general in military department.

Mr. S. Crawford, register and assistant criminal judge in Zillah of Chingleput.

March 1. Mr. W. C. Ogilvie, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of southern division of Arcot.

ECCLESIASTICAL APPOINTMENTS.

March 1. The Rev. G. Græme, military chaplain at St. Thomas's Mount.

The Rev. John Hallowell, second chaplain to garrison of Fort St. George.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort St. George, Jan. 16, 1827.—45th N.I. Sen. Lieut. Col. E. W. Snow, of inf., to be lieut. colon., and Sen. Maj. G. Jackson, from 19th N.I., to be lieut. col., from 8th Sept. 1826.

19th N.I. Sen. Capt. E. Fitzpatrick to be maj., in suc. to Jackson prom, 8th Sept. 1826; Sen. Lieut. J. Dever to be capt., and Sen. Ens. W. B. Pyper to be lieut., v. Binney discharged, 15th Dec. 1826; Sen. Ens. C. T. Kynaston to be lieut., v. Pyper discharged, 24th Dec. 1826.

23d N.I. Sen. Lieut. F. Welland to be capt., v. Cameron removed, 8th Sept. 1826; Sen. Ens. D. B. Humphreys to be lieut., in suc. to Cameron removed, ditto.

1st N.I. Sen. Ens. H. W. Hadfield to be lieut., v. Goodrich dec.; date 11th Nov. 1826.

Lieut. T. Eastment, 26th N.I., to be capt. by brevet, from 15th Jan. 1827.

Cadets N. W. Deacon, W. W. Dunlop, R. Ramsden, P. Shaw, and H. Nott admitted to inf., and prom. to ensigns.

Jan. 17.—Mr. H. S. Brice admitted on estab. as an assist.surg.

35th N.I. Lieut. S. R. Hicks to be adj., v. White permitted to return to Europe.

Capt. J. G. Rorison, 13th N.I., permitted to place his services at disposal of resident of Travancore, with a view to his employment under government of Travancore, as conservator of forests.

Capt. C. Maxtone, 9th N.I., to be post mast. to Travancore subsid. force, v. Rorison.

Head-Quarters, Jan. 23.—Capt. D. Walker removed from 2d to 4th Nat. Vet. Bat.

Removals in Artillery, 1st-Lieut. N. F. Fish from horse brigade to 4th bat.; 1st-Lieut. J. T. Ashton from 4th bat. to 1st brig. horse artill.; 2d-Lieut. H. H. Mogimer from 3d to 4th bat.

Cornet G. R. Edwards to do duty with 3d L. C., and Ens. J. W. Noble with 2d N.I. Ens. E. W. Kenworthy removed from 25th to 23d N.I.

Fort St. George, Jan. 26.—Lieut. N. H. Fish, of Artill.,

Artill., to be adj. to 4th or Gollundause Bat. of Artill., v. Ashton.

Cadet G. R. Edwards admitted to cavalry, and prom. to cornet.

Jan. 30.—Capt. A. Derville, 31st Lt. Inf., to be brigade-major to troops serving at Prince of Wales' Island and its dependencies.

Capt. W. Brooke, of Artill., to be commissary of stores at Prince of Wales' Island.

Capt. J. Ker, 33d N.I., to be paymaster to troops serving at Prince of Wales' Island.

Capt. A. Fraser, 45th N.I., to be postmaster to light field division of Hyderabad Subald. Force at Jaulnah.

Cadet J. W. Noble admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensign.

Feb. 6.—46th N.I. Lieut. J. Benwell to be adj., v. Plisson prom.

Lieut. P. P. Hodge, 1st N.I., permitted to place his services at disposal of government at Fort Cornwallis.

Cadets admitted. Mr. E. J. Hall, for Cavalry, and prom. to cornet.—Messrs. G. Carr, C. C. Foot, H. A. Thompson, and G. Freese for infantry, and prom. to ensigns.

Head-Quarters, Feb. 2.—Lieut. W. Justice, 5th N.I., posted to rifle corps.

Feb. 8.—Cornet and Ensigns (recently prom.) appointed to do duty. Cornet E. J. Hall with 3d L.C.; Ens. C. C. Foot with 31st N.I.; G. Carr with 16th do.; H. A. Thompson with 10th do.; and G. Freese with 5th do.

Feb. 12.—Cornets (recently prom.) posted to Regts. G. B. B. Grouble to 5th L.C.; G. R. Edwards, 2d do.; E. Down, 8th do.

Ensigns (recently prom.) posted to Regts. A. E. B. Durant, to 9th N.I.; C. Gordon, 13th do.; J. W. G. Kenny, 36th do.; Alfred Mayhew, 25th do.; F. Grant, 41st do.; J. H. Manley, 28th do.; J. Gomm, 47th do.; John Douglas, 1st do.; R. H. J. Budd, 3d P. L. I.; G. E. French, 27th N.I.; Jas. S. Mackenzie, 52d do.; R. Bryce, 19th do.; N. L. H. MacLeod, 48th do.; G. B. Clarke, 49th do.; J. W. Noble, 20th do.; R. Ramsden, 13th N.W. Deacon, 14th do.; H. Nott, 46th do.; W. W. Dunlop, 50th do.; P. Shaw, 34th C.L.I.; F. Henderson, 10th N.I.; D. Hodson, 44th do.; C. H. Wilson, 2d Eur. Regt.; A. B. Kerr, 36th N.I.; J. H. Taylor, 32d do.; R. White, 35th do.; John Currie, 25th do.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Jan. 16. Lieut. W. G. White, 35th N.I., for health.—17. Lieut. J. C. H. Campbell, 47th N.I., for health.—Maj. E. Osborn, 2d N.I.—23. Lieut. J. Davidson, 31st N.I., for health.—Lieut. F. W. Cocker, 8th N.I., for health (via Bombay).—26. Lieut. Col. Com. D. Newall, 49th N.I., for health.—Maj. E. Fitzpatrick, 19th N.I.—Capt. N. Hunter, of artill., for health.—30. Lieut. G. Gibson, 37th N.I., for health.—Lieut. Col. J. Briggs, 42d N.I., for health.—Feb. 6. Lieut. G. C. Rand, 8th N.I., for health (via Bombay).

To Bombay.—Jan. 26. Lieut. J. G. Green, 1st L.C., for eight months.—30. Lieut. C. Holl, 38th N.I., for five months.

To Sea.—Feb. 7. Ens. Jas. Rattray, 4th N.I., for six months, for health.

Cancelled.—Feb. 8. Capt. J. Gorton, 5th L.C., to Europe.

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, February 8.

Watkins v. Kinnamah.—In this cause an application was made to the court by Mr. Cochrane, on behalf of the defendant, founded upon an affidavit, for a writ of Habeas Corpus, directed to the proper officer of the zillah court at Chingleput, to bring to the Supreme Court a native who was confined in the gaol of Chingleput, for debt, in order that he might be examined

as a witness on behalf of the defendant. The affidavit, amongst other things, stated that the native in question was willing to come to Madras and to give his evidence; and upon the application for the writ, Mr. Cochrane stated the defendant had other witnesses who could depose to the same facts as the person in question, and that his object in applying for the writ was to prevent observations being made by the plaintiff's counsel on the trial in consequence of the non-production of the witness. The application being one of an uncommon nature, and no instance having been mentioned in which it had been granted, the court took time to consider.

The Chief Justice this day delivered his opinion, that the court had not the power to grant the application. His Lordship, after referring to the charter, said that, as against natives, the jurisdiction of the court was limited to those who lived within the local limits of Madras; but, as against British subjects, the court had the same power and jurisdiction as the Court of King's Bench in England. In this case the person sought to be brought up was a native, not within the local limits of Madras. The circumstance of the gaoler, or the party in whose custody the man was, being subject to the jurisdiction, made no difference, as he was merely a ministerial officer. It was said the court must have jurisdiction for the attainment of the ends of justice; could not this man's evidence be got at in any other way? Clearly it might, under the clause in the charter which gives the court power to grant commissions for the examination of witnesses. If this application were granted, a subpoena to testify might issue to natives at Hyderabad, or elsewhere. His Lordship concluded by stating that his impression was that the court had not the power.

Mr. Justice Comyn said there were two points to be considered in this case: 1st, whether the court had the power to grant the writ; 2dly, whether the present was such a case as to require the interference of the court. As to the first point, his Lordship thought the court had power to grant the writ, it being stated in the affidavit that the witness was willing to come, and he being in the custody of a British subject; but that a native witness, who is not subject to the jurisdiction, could not be compelled to come against his will. On the second point, his Lordship, after referring to several cases in which it was clearly held the court had power to grant the writ if they saw proper, observed the present was not a case in which the court should interfere.

Mr. Justice Ricketts agreed in opinion with Mr. Justice Comyn as to the propriety of refusing the application; but did not express any opinion as to the power of the court to grant it.

Mr.

Mr. Justice Comyn added, that if such an application were granted, the party applying for it would be bound to pay all costs and expenses.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NATIVE JURORS.

The following are extracts of a letter from the same native of India whose observations are given in Vol. xxiii, p. 864, on the subject of native juries :

“ With all due deference to the various correspondents who have favoured the public with their sentiments on this subject through the channel of your valuable paper (the greater part of whom I take to be Europeans), I observe that, either from not having much acquaintance with natives or from some other causes, they have never noticed the many highly respectable and responsible situations filled by natives throughout every part of the Hon. Company's dominions ; it is well known to all the Hon. Company's civil and military servants, and to many others, that from the code of regulations published by the Madras Government in 1816, and now acted upon, natives fill the various situations of moon-siff, which is the immediate magistrate of a village, and of tassildar, which is a more extended charge, often reaching to a considerable district, and subservient to the collector or magistrate, from whom the proceedings go to the criminal judge, and then to the circuit judge. The duty of a moon-siff is connected exclusively with his own village, from whence offenders are forwarded by him to the tassildar of the district : who, on investigating the case, forwards it to the magistrate or collector, if he finds the crime of such a nature as to require it, and he at the same time forwards all such witnesses and evidence as he can collect. In almost every case Hindoos occupy these situations, and it is universally allowed they do so in an impartial and upright manner, as many worthy gentlemen in the civil and military services daily experience ; and surely such duties require much more erudition than serving as petty jurymen.

“ You have mentioned in a note subjoined to my letter, that I might have said there are thousands who would come forward in place of hundreds, as I said, were there any pecuniary temptation held out to them to serve as jurymen : and in this you are correct, for I find from conversations I have had with different classes, residents in Madras and its neighbourhood, who would cheerfully and proudly come forward on such duty, that there are thousands who are certainly full as fit for the duty as the worthy Chingalles and Moodeliars of Ceylon ; who are now performing that duty with so much real benefit to their

country and satisfaction to themselves ; and there are yet amongst us not a few who frequently sat as jurors previous to the establishment of the Supreme Court here, and who, I believe, performed their duties to the entire satisfaction of the judges ; and every person at all acquainted with the native character will allow, that since that period their attainments in every branch of useful knowledge have not been few. Some of your correspondents have stated the difficulty that would be found to exist on account of the variety of castes, &c. &c. amongst us ; but I am confident that no respectable native ever allowed any thing of this nature to interfere in the discharge of his public duty ; a few narrow-minded beings or other illiberal men might ; perhaps some amongst our fourteen friends who signed the requisition to the sheriff are sure thereabouts ; but if they are tender on such parts, few else are, and it is surely ridiculous to punish the whole native community for these few ; on the contrary, we hope yet to see them ashamed of their conduct.

“ Many instances might be adduced of the impartiality with which natives in the situations alluded to in the beginning of my letter conduct themselves. I was an eye-witness to a transaction in the zillah of Canara, in 1822, when about fifteen natives, most of them Brahmins, were accused of a criminal depredation in Bannoor talook ; the tassildar, named Tremulrow, and the village moon-siff, who were both Hindoos, imprisoned the whole fifteen and sent them to Mangalore under a guard ; two of them were very high Brahmins, but the tassildar paid no respect to their caste, family, or religion, but executed his duty in an upright and impartial manner.”—[*Mud. Courier*.

REWARD TO A NATIVE.

The Madras Gov. Gazette contains an account of the presentation of a sword and horse to Subadar-major Mahomed Ghouse, on public parade, in addition to sixty cawnies of land for three lives, a palankeen, and an allowance of twenty pagodas per month for his own life and that of his nearest heir. The sword bears the following inscription :

“ Presented by the Government of Fort St. George to Subadar-major Mahomed Ghouse, of the Hon. the Governor's Body Guard, in testimony of its approbation of the zealous, faithful, and active services of that officer during a period of forty-five years, and for his prompt and gallant conduct in defending the Most Noble the Marquis Cornwallis from a desperate attack upon his life, by a party of Mysore horse, in camp near Bangalore, in the year 1791.”

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Feb. 5. *Wellington*, Evans, from London.—23. *Cambridge*, Barber, from Bengal.—28. *Madras*, Beach, from Bengal.—March 2. *Ganges*, Lloyd, from Bengal.—4. *Mellish*, Vincent, from London.

Departures.

Feb. 4. *Providence*, Ardlie, for London.—15. H.M.S. *Badiana*, Wilson, for Ceylon and London.—March 6. *Ganges*, Lloyd, for London; and *Cambridge*, Barber, for Penang.—8. *Wellington*, Evans, for London.—9. *Madras*, Beach, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- Jan. 5. At Jaulnah, the lady of Capt. A. Fraser, 45th N.I., of a son.
 25. At Vepery, the lady of Lieut. Senior, 35th N.I., of a daughter.
 27. At Vizianagram, the lady of Major Marrett, 11th regt., of a son.
 Feb. 1. At Poonamallee, the wife of Mr. T. De Cruz, sub-assist. surg., of a daughter.
 — At Dindigul, the lady of R. Nelson, Esq., civil service, of a son.
 8. Mrs. V. Lamoury, of a son.
 9. At Arcot, the lady of A. N. Magrath, Esq., of a son.
 — At St. Thomé, the lady of Capt. Dowker, of a daughter.
 14. The lady of the Rev. Alex. Webster, of a son.
 — At Vellore, the lady of Josiah Nisbet, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
 17. Mrs. P. A. Vanderputt, of a daughter.
 19. Mrs. M. Beck, of a daughter.
 27. The lady of Jas. Webster, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- Jan. 22. Mr. G. H. Colkers to Miss D. Adams, eldest daughter of Mr. J. Adams.
 30. At Secunderabad, Lieut. Arch. Douglas, dep. assist. com. gen., to Maria Norman, youngest daughter of the late G. Maidman, Esq., of the Madras civil service.
 Feb. 3. At St. George's Church, Mr. G. R. Ashton, to Miss R. Wilton, daughter of the late Lieut. Wilton, of H.M.'s 53d regt.
 5. At St. George's Church, Capt. R. Edwards, of the ship *Earl Kellie*, to Miss J. A. F. Frank.
 15. At St. George's Church, Mr. R. E. Goldard, of the commissariat, to Miss E. Taylor.
 17. At Trichinopoly, H. Dickinson, Esq., of the civil service, to Miss Watts.
 19. At Vepery, Mr. G. Batchelor to Miss M. Taylor.
 21. At the Capuchin Church, Mr. J. Monisse to Miss E. G. Bower.
Lately. At Cuddalore, Brooke Cunliffe, Esq., of the civil service, to Miss Rayson.

DEATHS.

- Dec. 29. At Pursewallum, Mr. R. H. Flicker, assistant surveyor of the Surveyor-General's Establishment.
 Jan. 18. At Trichinopoly, Mr. W. Taylor, livery-stable keeper.
 21. At Tellicherry, James Stevens, Esq., first judge of the Provincial Court of Appeal and Circuit Western Division, aged 53.
 25. At Pondicherry, Maria, wife of Capt. T. H. Brothridge, H.M.'s 48th regt., aged 26, after giving birth to an infant son on the 18th of the same month, which survived only a few hours.
 26. On route to Madras from Trichinopoly, Mrs. E. G. Albany.
 Feb. 1. At Pondicherry, Elizabeth, second daughter of the late J. S. Farley, Esq., American merchant.
 10. At Black Town, William Frederick, eldest son of Mr. J. Johnson, of the Post Office.
 19. At Masulipatam, Lieut. G. K. Boyce, 1st Eur. regt.
 20. At Gooty, Lieut. and Qu. mast. F. B. Griffiths, 43d N.I.

Bombay.

GOVERNMENT GENERAL ORDERS.

WIDOWS OF EUROPEAN SOLDIERS.

Bombay Castle, Jan. 25, 1827.—The Hon. Court of Directors having been pleased to direct that the widows of European soldiers be not excluded from the benefits of Lord Clive's Fund, on account of their being of Indian birth or parentage, the same is published for the information of the army and the parties concerned; and the Governor in Council is pleased to fix the 1st of September 1819 as the earliest date from which the claims of native-born widows of European soldiers to pensions are to be retrospectively considered, that being the date from which the Hon. Court of Directors sanctioned the payment of pensions in India.

PERSIAN GULF PRIZE PROPERTY.

Bombay Castle, Feb. 17, 1827.—Referring to the General Order bearing date the 26th April 1825 (No. 152), the Governor in Council has much satisfaction in publishing in General Orders the following extract of a despatch from the Hon. Court of Directors in the Military Department, dated the 12th April 1826, granting, in addition to the prize property realized by the agents, the full valuation of all boats captured and destroyed by the forces employed on the expedition against the pirates in the Persian Gulf in 1819.

Para. 2d. "We direct that the captors shall be compensated for all the vessels which, having belonged to the enemies, and captured from them, were either taken into the public service or given up, under the direction of the constituted authorities, to the Arab chiefs our allies; and that all such vessels shall be considered as booty within the meaning of his Majesty's grant: but we think that those vessels which were not captured but destroyed in the course of the operations cannot be considered as booty.

3d. "You will accordingly, in virtue of his Majesty's grant, pay to the agents of the trustees one moiety of the amount of the estimated value of such vessels as were actually taken by the forces engaged in the operations in the Persian Gulf.

4th. "The remaining moiety you will likewise pay to the agents as a donation from us to the forces, in conformity with the intention announced in our military despatch of the 11th Feb. 1824."

In conformity to the above orders, and those previously published in General Orders of the 26th April 1825, the Hon. the Governor in Council has been pleased to direct the following further sums to be paid over to Messrs. Shotton, Malcolm, and

and Co. for distribution under his Majesty's warrant, after payment of the percentage due to the prize agents, and with interest at six per cent. per annum from 30th Sept. 1820, viz.

Rupees 1,34,625
1,32,000

Total.....Rupees 2,66,625

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Bombay Castle, Jan. 11, 1826.—*Medical Department.* Assist. surg. H. Michie to be vaccinator in the Deccan, v. Taylor prom.; Assist. surg. S. Love to succeed Mr. Michie; Assist. surg. A. Graham to be vaccinator in North West Division of Guzerat, v. Gray prom.; Assist. surg. A. Young to be civil surgeon at Kaira, v. Graham; Assist. surg. H. Johnston to be civil surgeon at Sholapore; Assist. surg. A. J. Montefiore to be surg. to Bussorah residency.

Jan. 16.—Lieut. Col. E. Hardy, of artil., to be qu. mast. gen. of army, v. Shuldham, who has proceeded to Europe.

Lieut. Col. J. W. Aitchison, adj. gen. of army, to have a seat at Clothing Board.

Capt. J. S. Canning, 3d N.I., transferred to invalid establishment.

Jan. 17.—17th N.I. Lieut. C. F. Pelly to be capt., and Ens. R. C. Curry to be lieut., in suc. to Ellis dec.; date 15th Jan.

Jan. 19.—3d N.I. Lieut. E. W. Jones to be capt., and Ens. D. A. Malcolm to be lieut., in suc. to Canning invalidated; date 17th Jan.

Jan. 23.—Ens. C. W. Prother removed from 2d Europ. Regt. to 4th N.I.

Cornet H. L. Salmon, 2d I.C., to act as qu. mast. to left wing of that corps stationed in Kattivar.

Lieut. Col. Com. Hessman, of artillery, appointed to general staff of army on allowance of a maj. gen., v. Maj. Gen. S. Wilson returned to Europe, subject to removal on arrival of any maj. gen. or other senior officer on H.C.'s establishment, and to confirmation of Hon. Court of Directors.

Lieut. Col. Com. Leighton to have command of Presidency Division.

Lieut. Col. Com. Hessman to have command of Surat Division of army.

Jan. 29.—Assist. surg. Streaker to act as civil surg. at Poona during absence of Assist. surg. Ducat.

Feb. 12.—Lieut. Col. F. Pierce to be commandant of artillery with a seat at Military Board.

Feb. 13.—3d N.I. Lieut. R. G. King to be adj. v. Jones prom. to a comp., and Lieut. J. Hallett to be acting qu. mast. and interp. in Hindoostanee, v. King; dated 17th Jan.

Feb. 14.—Assist. surg. R. T. Riding, permitted, at his own request, to resign Hon. Company's service.

Feb. 15.—Lieut. J. T. Foster, 15th N.I., to be qu. mast. and interp. in Hindoostanee to Marine Bat.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Jan. 12. Lieut. Neville, 2d Gr. N.I., on urgent private affairs.—15. Lieut. Col. J. Briggs, Madras estab., for health.—29. Lieut. G. M'Intosh, 22d N.I., for health.—Feb. 12. Assist. surg. Frith, for health.—13. Lieut. Col. W. H. Stanley, 19th N.I.—14. Maj. R. Thew, of artillery.—16. Lieut. F. V. Kennett, 21st N.I., for health.—Lieut. G. C. Rand, 8th Madras N.I., for health.

To Cape of Good Hope.—Jan. 26. Assist. surg. T. Thornton, Madras estab., for twelve months, for health (also to St. Helena).—Feb. 15.—Lieut. Col. Com. Hessman, commanding presidency div. of army, ditto, ditto (via St. Helena).

MISCELLANEOUS.

MENDICANTS AND VAGRANTS.

The *Bombay Courier* complains of the number of mendicants and vagrants that infest Bombay. "The practisers of mendicancy may be divided into three classes, viz. those who from bodily infirmity, disease, and old age, cannot possibly procure a livelihood by their own labour; religious mendicants; and vagrants who are able but unwilling to work for a subsistence. The first class, we are sorry to say, is a numerous one, and presents among its numbers some of the most loathsome and disgusting objects that can possibly be imagined, but who are notwithstanding at present allowed to wander about the streets, or take their stations on the sides of the public roads. If any person wishes to form a correct view of the state of mendicancy at this presidency, let him visit the Fort on Sunday, where on that day the lame, blind, diseased, lazy, and idle, generally assemble from all parts of the island, for the purpose of laying the inhabitants under weekly contribution. The town is literally turned into one great Lazar-house, and the noisy impertunity, brawling, and fighting of the different claimants, is by no means calculated to excite feelings of compassion; in fact, they are more likely to give a lower opinion of human nature than it deserves."

MAJOR GENERAL WILSON.

Address from the Natives of Bombay to Major-General Wilson, on his approaching Departure for England.

To Major-General Samuel Wilson.

Dear Sir: Influenced by feelings of the highest respect and esteem for your public and private worth, we the undersigned, native inhabitants of Bombay, presume to address you, to express our unfeigned sorrow at your departure from us, after having resided amongst us and our fathers nearly forty-five years, beloved and esteemed by all classes of the community. In addressing you, we beg you to believe that we do not use the language of adulation, but simply the sincere utterance of our feelings, in expressing our real concern at the prospect of being separated from one (most probably for ever) who has so eminently entitled himself to our warmest esteem and veneration. Our best wishes for your health and long life you carry with you to your native land; and we pray you to believe that the native community of Bombay will never cease to remember your many virtues, and that we highly appreciate the excellence of that conciliatory conduct which you have at all times observed towards us.

Wishing

Wishing your a pleasant voyage, we have the honour to subscribe ourselves,

Dear Sir,

Your obedient and most humble Servants,

(Signed by forty-four Parsee merchants, and eighteen Banian, Hindu, and Mohamedan merchants, bankers, and other inhabitants of Bombay.)

Bombay, 11th January 1827.

The Major-General died on board the *Upton Castle*, on his passage home.

SHIP LAUNCH.

On Saturday night a fine new ship of 600 tons, was floated from the upper old Bombay dock, and while gliding in her destined element, received the name of "Mount Stuart Elphinstone," our much esteemed Governor. This ship has been built in six months, from a draft of Mr. Pollexfen, his Majesty's builder at this port, and we understand is highly creditable to his professional talents as a naval architect. The despatch and correctness with which she has been constructed evince the efficient state of our dock-yard, and reflect much credit on the native builders. —[*Bom. Gaz.*, January 3.

BOMBAY PRESS.

Whatever may be the opinion of the editor of the *Bengal Hurkaru* and his Bombay correspondent, who informed him, not a very long time back, that the society of Bombay was divided into two parties, one of which had the *Courier* at its head, and the other the *Gazette*, we disdian and disclaim being under any party trammels, and recognize none but that of truth, which we mean to persist in, speaking manfully and fairly to all, and of all, as far as is consistent with prudence and our own safety. We trust that our readers will make due allowances for the difficulties we necessarily labour under in conducting a paper, second in importance, at a small place like Bombay, so entirely destitute of incident in itself, and therefore dependent on foreign aid for every thing in the shape of news. —[*Bom. Gaz.*, Jan. 3.

BALL AT THE ESPLANADE.

The society of Bombay enjoyed on Monday night a delightfully festive and brilliant meeting at the bungalows of our hospitable secretary on the Esplanade, whose well-known talent of making all around him happy, brought together such an assemblage of beauty, elegance, and taste, as has seldom been witnessed here. A fancy ball, diversified by the able and lively exhibition of many excellent characters in mask, went off in the finest imaginable style, and joy, happiness, and good-humour shone in every face. To offer a description of the suite of rooms

laid out and lighted up most admirably, or, much harder, to attempt even a sketch of the "travelling tustres" or the various commingling groups of the evening, were fitter for the mighty minstrel than a poor unimaginative Bombay editor. There were harlequins, sailors, jews, barbers, bobbory huntsmen, caftaned chiefs, on whom bright houris smiled, and all the motley excellent after their kind. The honest Dutch fisherman's wife, who complained to the chief douanier of the difficulty of bringing her commodities to market, was a well-supported character. There were the fair in every fancied attire, from richest gem-loaded splendour to the simple russet gown, and in quadrilles and country dances all mixed with lively animation. In one mazy dance there were at one time an Annet Lyle, a fair Norman Paysanne and a nymph from beyond the Andes, whose mantilha could scarce hide the sparkling eye. The music was excellent, the collation superbly laid out, and to say one word of the attentions of the host were superfluous. Even at the second supper were some bright stars with "lingering not lessening ray," and long after did mirth and harmony reign, till many hours had been borrowed from the next morning. In short, such a night will not soon be forgotten. —[*Ibid.*, Feb. 7.

EDUCATION SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the Education Society was held on the 8th February, at the New Buildings, Byculah; the Hon. the Governor presided. The report of the Society was read, from which it appeared that there are 105 boys whole borders, three half-boarders, thirty-two day scholars, and seventy native boys, making a total of 210. During the year, thirty-four whole boarders have been admitted, seventeen have been apprenticed in the engineer and medical departments, nine have been removed by their friends, and seven have died. The number of girls at the end of the year was seventy-one; ten have been admitted, four have left the school to go into service, three having attained the age of fifteen have been removed by their friends, and twelve have died.

The new school-houses will each accommodate about 200 boarders; they have every convenience of cook-rooms, godowns, and have each a spacious playground, yet so separated that the children can be kept perfectly distinct. The buildings present a very imposing appearance from the public roads; the style is uniformly chaste and simple, and does great credit to the taste and judgment of the gentleman who kindly superintended their construction, and yet are destitute of all useless ornament.

A sub.

A subscription was opened to meet the heavy charge upon the funds occasioned by the new building. More than 2,600 rupees were subscribed, of which the Governor gave 1,000.

MAIL COACHES.

Government have advertised for tenders for establishing a mail coach to carry the post and bangy packet between Panwell and Poona.

THE NATIVE EDUCATION SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society took place on the 20th January, at its buildings on the Esplanade. The Education Society, composed of European and native gentlemen, and which under the particular patronage of the hon^{ble} the Governor, was instituted for the exclusive purpose of establishing an extended and improved system of education among the natives subject to this government, and of affording them the means of making themselves acquainted (chiefly through the medium of their own language) with European science and literature. In furtherance of these objects the attention of the Society has been principally directed to obtaining translations into the vernacular dialects spoken under this presidency, of European works of standard utility, and to framing compilations calculated to facilitate the natives in the acquirement of a more correct and grammatical knowledge, both of their own and the English language, than has hitherto been imparted to them. That the exertions of the Society in this department is likely to have a most beneficial influence, in the diffusion of knowledge, may be inferred from the list of works published during the last year, or which are now in the press or in a state of preparation. It is a prominent object of the Education Society to increase the numbers of this class of schoolmasters, and to make such a distribution of them throughout the different districts under this presidency, that a standard system of village education may be in time universally established. In respect to the schools already under the superintendence of the Society, the last examinations prove that the cause of native education continues to gain ground. The number of scholars have not only increased very considerably during the last year, but their progress in the acquirement of a grammatical knowledge of their mother tongue, and in the study of arithmetic, have in most instances been highly creditable, both to themselves and their instructors. — (*Bomb. Cour. Feb. 3.*)

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

Jan. 31. *Catherine*, Kincaid, from Greenock. — Feb. 11. *Berwick*, Ellbeck, from Bengal. — 12. *La*

Asiatic Journ. Vol. 24. No. 140.

Buffon, Duccon, for Bordeaux. — 15. *French brig Esperance*, Berichon, from Bourbon and Mangalore (under seizure). — 17. *Briarista*, Walker, from London.

Departures.

Feb. 16. *Hibberts*, Theaker, for London. — 20. *Norfolk*, Greig, for London. — 27. *Mount Stuart*, Elphinstone, Henning, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 3. At Poona, the lady of Lieut. Col. Taylor, 25th N.L., of a daughter.
12. At Poona, Mrs. M. C. Aikin, of a son.
13. The lady of James Fawcett, Esq., of a daughter.
15. The lady of Capt. Forbes, 20th N.L., of a daughter.
18. At Byculla, the lady of Mr. J. Garrett, of the American mission, of a son.
22. Mrs. T. H. Phillips, of a son.
23. At Mhow, the lady of Lieut. F. Laurie, 12th N.L., of a son.
24. The lady of Capt. Stack, Nagpoor Auxiliary Horse, of a daughter.
28. At Bankote, the lady of the Rev. James Mitchell, of a son.
Feb. 3. At Parell, Mrs. Wm. Macleod, of a son.
16. At Poona, the lady of G. W. Anderson, Esq., of a daughter.
18. Mrs. Hutchinson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 13. At St. Thomas's Church, E. E. Elliot, Esq., of the civil service, to Miss Anne Harrison.
22. At the Scotch Church, Ensign A. A. Drummond, 11th N.L., to Sanelier, eldest daughter of the late Mr. B. Simon, merchant, Bombay.

DEATHS.

Dec. 30. At Surat, Lieut. Francis Smith, of the regiment of artillery.
Jan. 4. At Mhow, Capt. Ellis, 17th Bombay N.L., assistant commissary general Malwah Field Force.
27. At Malligaum, Lieut. G. H. Macdonnell, interm. and qu. mast. 11th N.L.
Feb. 1. Mr. G. Cadenhead, foreman mechanist at the New Mint.

Ceylon.

PRECIOUS STONES.

We learn from the Ceylon Gazette that the practice of farming out the government privilege to dig for precious stones in the Kandyan territories is to be discontinued from the commencement of the present year. In future, licenses will be granted to all persons applying for permission to dig, which will be renewed annually, each person paying two pounds sterling for himself, and one pound for every person employed under him, on obtaining such license. Either this impost is extremely moderate, or the prizes in the precious stone lottery of Ceylon bear a very small proportion to the blanks. The system is a very liberal one, and gives full scope to individual skill and enterprise. — (*Deng. Hurk. Jan. 17.*)

MINERALOGY OF THE ISLAND.

Sir: — As attention seems to have been lately turned to the mineralogy of this island; perhaps some explanation could be furnished of the following passage in the French work "Histoire de l'Isle de Ceylon,"

lon," which passes under the name of Juan de Rebeiro, but is avowed in the translator's preface to have been extracted from a variety of Portuguese manuscripts.

"On tire tous les ans du seul royaume de Cotte plus de mille batteaux, chacun de soixante tonneaux, d'un certain sable, dont on fait très-grand débit dans toutes les Indes."—Rib. p. 9.

The kingdom of Cotta, according to this author, included the whole tract of country from Chilaw southward, and bounded by Adam's Peak and the frontiers of Uva and Kandy, including the Four Corles, Seven Corles, Salpetty, Raygam, Pasdoon, Galle, Belligain, Corna Atagan, and Matura Corles, the pagoda of Tuineweré, Asgrivaia, and the kingdom of Dina Vaca or the two Corles. These names may probably enable some of your correspondents to discover the place where this valuable substance existed, and perhaps thus add materially to the resources of the island.—GAYANOO, Dec. 28, 1826.

—[Ceyl. Gaz. Jan. 3.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 31. At Colombo, the wife of P. Foenander, Esq., sitting magistrate of Calpenty, of a daughter.

Jan. 15. The wife of Mr. J. Sansoni, of a son.

Penang.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

Fort Cornwallis, Jan. 12, 1827. — Lieut. Col. Snow to command troops in Fort Cornwallis.

Capt. Lake, Madras Engineers, to be inspector-general of works, plans, and estimates at Prince of Wales Island, Malacca, and Singapore.

Capt. Ralfe, Bengal Artillery, to be town major and military secretary to Hon. the Governor.

Lieut. Hodge, 1st Madras N.I., to be executive officer of public works at Prince of Wales Island.

Lieut. Jackson, Bengal Artillery, to be executive officer of public works at Singapore.

Lieut. Risdon, 8th Madras Cav., to be cantonment brigade major at presidency cantonment.

Lieut. Snow, 24th Madras N.I., to be cantonment adj. at Malacca.

OPERATIONS AGAINST THE PIRATES.

A government order publishes the following letter of Capt. Low to Lieut. Col. Snow, commanding the troops on Prince Wales Island, detailing his proceedings in an attack upon and destruction of the piratical posts established on the Korow river.

Sir:—I have the honour to report, that having received information that many pirates harboured on the banks of the Korow river, I hastily formed a detachment, as per margin,* and reached with it the mouth of the river at midnight of the 14th inst., where a small party of the pirates was immediately surprised, and several made prisoners.

When the tide turned the detachment

* 1 Native officer and 25 sépoy of the local corps, in 9 country (disguised) boats with armed Malayan crews, and carrying altogether 13-pound-

was pushed rapidly about twenty-five miles up the river to the second position of the pirates, who were driven out with loss; and soon afterwards to their main and partially stockaded position, lying about ten miles higher up, which they speedily abandoned. The whole, under their leader Oodin, were pursued up the river until they were forced to seek security in the jungle; and I trust, after being thus dispersed, they will not soon collect again for the annoyance of the native traders to Pinang.

Eight rantakas (small pieces of ordnance), with a large quantity of ammunition and many spears and other native arms, fell into our possession; and fifteen boats were sunk, burned, and captured;† a number of the pirates were made prisoners.

I am happy to state that no casualty occurred, and that only two were severely wounded, chiefly by the harp stakes on the caulis and planted in the footpaths lying across the swamps over which the pirates were pursued.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES LOW, Captain,
Act. Sup. Wellesley Province and
Com. P.W. Island Local Corps.
Province Wellesley, 24th Jan. 1827.

(True copy.)

(Signed) R. TAYLOR, Captain,
Officiating Brig. Maj.
To E. W. Snow, Lieut. Col. Com. P.W. I.

POPULATION OF THE ISLAND.

According to the last census, up to December 31, 1825, the entire population of Pinang amounted to 37,962 souls, of whom 13,769 are Malays and Bugis, and 7,552 are Chinese; the remainder are Chulias, Bengalese, Armenians, &c. There are in George-Town and its immediate vicinity, 1 episcopal church, 1 mission chapel, 2 Roman Catholics and 1 Armenian chapel, 4 Hindoo and 3 Chinese temples, 10 Mohammedan mosques, and 2 Siamese temples.

MARRIAGE.

Jan. 25. At St. George's Church, G. F. Gottlieb, Esq., to Emily, daughter of the late H. Harris, Esq., M.D., of the Madras establishment.

Malacca.

CHINESE NEWSPAPER.

By a private communication from Malacca,

der, 21-pounders, and 6 swivels. These boats were placed under Faustina D'Acunha attached to Wellesley Province, whose bravery and activity I had occasion to notice.

1 Native officer and 10 sépoy of the same corps gained us in a boat, carrying 13-pounder, on the 15th.

† It is supposed that the pirates threw many rantakas and other arms into the river and swamps, as they fled in very small canoes.

latter, we are informed that it has been proposed to establish there a newspaper in the Chinese language, in which the latest news from China will be inserted. Considering the number of Chinese now resident in the three settlements of Pinang, Malacca and Singapore, and that they are almost all able to read, the undertaking will probably succeed, and if well conducted, may not only be very useful to them, but contribute greatly to afford to Europeans a much more accurate knowledge of that people than they at present possess.

FREE SCHOOL.

The following is an abstract of the resolutions passed at two separate meetings for the establishment of a free school at Malacca, and which appear in the *Malacca Mercury* of Dec. 5:—

1. An institution having been projected for the purpose of imparting the elementary principles of useful knowledge to a large community of people, entirely destitute of the means of receiving education, several individuals went round the settlement for the purpose of obtaining donations and monthly subscriptions, and as it appeared a more feasible mode to appoint a committee by ballot at each house, a paper was submitted to the several subscribers for this purpose, and the following gentlemen have been nominated for the purpose of drawing up regulations for the management of the institution:

Hon. S. Garling, president; Rev. J. Humphreys, vice-president; J. Pattullo, Esq.; Mr. Thomas Williamson; Mr. B. De Wind; Mr. H. Oversee. At these meetings, it was resolved, amongst other particulars, that the object of the school be to teach reading, writing, and arithmetic to all classes of the community, gratuitously to all those whose parents or guardians are unable to meet the expense, and at a moderate charge to those whose parents or guardians can afford it.

That the school be conducted on the Lancasterian principles.

That every child received into the school remain at least three years, unless there be some satisfactory assignable reason for his quitting.

That no book be introduced into the school without being first presented to the committee; and that the general reading lessons be extracts from Sacred Scriptures.

That the children of Protestant parents be required to attend divine service in the church every Sabbath day, under the superintendence of the master, and that every encouragement be held out by the master to children of other denominations to attend likewise.

Singapore.

MONUMENT TO SIR T. S. RAFFLES.

At a meeting of the friends of the late Sir T. S. Raffles, convened at Singapore, Jan. 30, 1827, for the purpose of considering the best means of perpetuating the remembrance of the eminent services rendered to this settlement and to the commercial world generally by this distinguished individual, the following resolutions were proposed and adopted.

Resolved, 1st. that a monument be erected to his memory on some conspicuous and suitable spot within the precincts of Singapore.

2d. That a committee be appointed to procure subscriptions by every means in their power, both in Singapore and elsewhere, to determine on the most eligible situation for the proposed monument, and to superintend every thing connected with the object in view.

3d. That the committee consist of the persons selected from gentlemen in the Hon. East-India Company's service at Singapore, and from the commercial part of the community by priority of residence, viz. the Hon. J. Prince, Esq.; Edw. Presgrave, Esq.; S. G. Bonham, Esq.; Rev. R. Burn; Lieut. P. Jackson; Wm. Montgomerie, M.D.; Chas. Scott, Esq.; J. A. Maxwell, Esq.; A. Guthrie, Esq.; G. Mackenzie, Esq.; A. L. Johnston, Esq.; and Chas. Thomas, Esq. That any three of these gentlemen be considered a quorum, and authorized to transact any business that may arise after due notice has been given to each member of the committee.

4. That a suitable inscription, in English, Latin, Chinese, and Malayan, be prepared for the monument.

5. That Mr. G. D. Coleman be appointed architect to superintend the building, and that a plan and estimate of the same be prepared by that gentleman to be laid before the committee as soon as the probable amount of the subscriptions can be ascertained.

6. That Messrs. A. L. Johnston and Co., Singapore, be requested to act as treasurers and to receive all contributions.

7. That the several houses of agency in Bengal, Madras, Bombay, China, and Prince of Wales's Island be requested to receive subscriptions for the proposed monument, and transmit the same at their earliest convenience to the treasurers, A. L. Johnston and Co.—[*Singapore Chron.* Feb. 1.

EDUCATION OF NATIVES.

A notice appears in the *Singapore Chronicle* of January 4th, that an English and Malayan school has been established at Telook Ayer, Pekin Street, for the purpose

pose of teaching the children of all classes of native inhabitants to read and write the English and Malayan languages in the Roman character; together with any other branch of knowledge which may be deemed desirable or useful. The British system of education has been adopted. Malay schools have also been established for teaching the Malayan language only, and in the Malay character.

NAUTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

Wednesday the 7th inst., the anniversary of the formation of the Singapore Yacht Club was fixed on by the members as a proper day for a survey of the four-and-a-half fathom bank which had, we suppose erroneously, been reported dangerous, as the Singapore Yacht Club sounded all over it and had no less water than four fathoms and a half, and found Ross's soundings generally quite correct. —[*Sing. Chron.*, Feb. 15.

INCREASE OF THE POPULATION.

The *Singapore Chronicle* reports the arrival of several junks from Canton and Amoy, or Emmoi; one of those from Canton brought an addition to the population of 700 Chinese, another 450, and a third 300; and one from Amoy brought 200; making in all 1850 new inhabitants of the island.

GRANTS OF LAND.

The following government notification, dated 9th January, appears in the *Chronicle*. The public are hereby informed, that all persons holding lands on the island of Singapore, under grants issued by Sir T. S. Raffles, lieutenant governor, or under authority of location tickets received from the late resident, Mr. Crawford, and who have complied with the conditions of the same, are required to return these documents into the office of the land surveyor, when they will be furnished with fresh grants, authorized and confirmed by the Right Hon. the Governor-general in Council. All persons who have failed in fulfilling the terms of their original contract, to clear and build on the land so bestowed, are required to complete their engagements on or before the 1st May next, in default of which the lands of such description will be resumed by, and revert to, the Hon. Company as proprietors of the soil.

TRADE WITH SOUTH AMERICA.

We are informed on the best authority, that letters have been received from Mr. Ricketts, H. M.'s consul general at Lima, to the address of our late resident, Mr. Crawford, written with the view of suggesting and establishing a commercial

intercourse with that portion of the emancipated states of South America. The advantages of our situation as a depot for the collection of produce and manufactured goods from China, Bengal, and the adjoining countries, are conspicuously manifest, and under the establishment of such a trade highly promising. By proper and early arrangements the manufactured silks and crapes of China, which, we believe, are in first demand in the markets of South America, could be ordered and made to any pattern and brought here by the country ships, returning in the months of November and December, without incurring many of the imposts and avoiding all the expense of a detention of many months in China, to which vessels trading direct from South America to China are now exposed, and which even our American friends cannot escape, although the intelligence, enterprise, and address of Mr. Cushing have done much to facilitate their commercial operations at Canton. The goods of Bengal could also be procured on the most favourable terms here, and we believe that the opening of such a trade has been impressed upon Mr. Ricketts as an object for which his Majesty's Government are very solicitous. It will be recollected that Mr. Ricketts held a high situation as a member of the Supreme Government of Bengal, and took always a lively and active interest in the establishment of Singapore. —[*Singapore Chron.*

DEATH.

Jan. 13. Mr. James Stuart, late chief officer of the schooner *Dhaulie*.

Mauritius.

Port Louis, 20th Oct. 1826.—“The Portuguese ship *Grati-lao*, seized by Commodore Christian, has been released by the following sentence given by the Judge of the Vice Admiralty Court:—Ship restored, tea condemned, and a penalty of £100. imposed on the captain; China goods, not *bonâ fide* the manufacture of Macao, also condemned, and the Portuguese to pay costs; but as there was an unnecessary delay on the part of the prosecutor in bringing the case before the court, the Judge condemned Commodore Christian to pay for the said detention, the time to be fixed by him after consideration. From this sentence the Commodore, I understand, has given notice of appeal.”—[*Cal. John Bull.*

Netherlands India.

SUMATRA.

Bencoolen.—It will be recollected that some

some months ago we mentioned that the Dutch authorities at Fort Marlbro' had refused to permit the embarkation and removal of the emancipated Caffries attached to the establishment of the East-India Company at Bencoolen, and that the ship *Mary*, which had been chartered for the special purpose of carrying away those poor people with their families, according to their wishes, was not allowed to take them on board. The circumstance appearing to the Supreme Government of Bengal so totally at variance with the 14th article of the late treaty, which as formerly quoted secures to the inhabitants of the territories ceded the liberty of removal, *without let or hindrance, to any country to which they may wish to remove*, Mr. Prince was despatched as a special commissioner for the purpose of requiring the fulfilment of the treaty, and, in the confidence that no obstruction would be offered to so reasonable a demand, the Bengal government were again at the expense of providing and supplying the necessary means of transport. On his arrival at Padang, Mr. Prince addressed himself officially to Colonel De Stueres, the chief of the Dutch establishments on the west coast of Sumatra, and having received from him what appeared an ample permission to prosecute the object of his mission, he proceeded to Bencoolen. This post (which we believe is now garrisoned by about twenty soldiers) he found under charge of a Mr. Verploegh, who seemed at first anxious to carry the wishes of Colonel De Stueres into effect, but on finding that the number of Caffries and natives of Bengal who came forward to solicit removal amounted to 214, he resumed his former line of conduct, and persisted in opposing their departure. It appears not a little remarkable how an agent of his class should be vested with any discretionary power on such a subject, but in the circumstances of the case Mr. Prince had no alternative but to enter a public protest and withdraw the transports. Here is a most striking instance of the extraordinary manner in which Dutch power and authority is exercised in these regions. An obscure agent, whose services do not obtain for him from his own government a better recompense than is bestowed on one of our river pilots, considers himself entitled to oppose a solemn demand made by the greatest European power in India, and to substitute forsooth his interpretation of the treaty for what is its obvious spirit and letter. What is to be expected from such agents when they come in contact with native authorities; or can it be surprising that revolt and disaffection should be so widely spread?—[*Sing. Chron.* Dec. 7.]

Letters from Bencoolen, of the 22d Oct. have been received, which give any

thing but a flourishing picture of that settlement under its old Dutch masters. The duties they are imposing are so excessive as to threaten an entire extinction to trade, and the colony is rapidly approaching to that state of poverty and wretchedness, when none who are not absolutely tied to the soil will remain in it. Such indeed is said to be the oppression practised, that very serious apprehensions are entertained as to the safety of living under the Dutch protection, and foreigners are holding themselves ready for a sudden start, should the exigency, that is not a little dreaded, occur. Economy in the mean time is the order of the day. Officers, soldiers, and civilians have been turned out of pay, and an assistant resident, as they call him, at 200 guilders a month, is all that is retained, with the exception of a man of all work under him, who is to be master attendant, collector of customs, store-keeper, &c. &c. Such is the perfection of Dutch fiscal expertness, that they can do with two men, what, in our day of power—would, for the sake of the good folks at Bencoolen, it were back again—required more than 100! The reduction of the police to twenty men is represented as done with that regard to safety of person and property, which Dutch economy patronizes, and bands of vagabonds are expected forthwith to be formed, on this signal, to rob, murder, and annoy the peaceable inhabitants. This is certainly a gloomy picture of things at Padang. Our letters say nothing about the Caffre population, or the endeavours of the Penang commissioner, Mr. Prince, to obtain their liberation. This object can only be effected by applying directly to the Dutch government at Batavia; and we should think a commissioner vested with due power from the Supreme Government of India would not fail soon to effect it. We like peaceable modes of doing things; otherwise it might have been advisable to have committed the negotiation to the commander of one of his Majesty's ships of war, who would soon have brought Mynheer to a due respect for the stipulations of the treaty entered into by England with the King of the Netherlands.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Feb. 1.]

DEATH.

Oct. 7. At Buitenzorg, near Batavia, William Cotes, Esq., of Saleh Tiga, in Java, formerly of the Bengal army.

Persia.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

A detachment of General Benckendorff's troops, under Col. Baron Fredericks, was attacked on the 16th (28th) May, on the road to Nakhitchewan, by Hassan Khan

Khan, with 2,000 cavalry, who retreated, next day, to Sardarabad, on the approach of Gen. Benkendorff. This general passed the Garnitchai, but not meeting with the enemy, returned to Erivan. On the 28th he again advanced towards Sardarabad, with 1,200 cossacks and one piece of cannon, and came in sight of the enemy, who was posted on the other side of the Zanga, at a short distance from its junction with the Araxes. General Benkendorff crossed the river, notwithstanding the fire of the Persians, who passed the Aberan, and formed on the other side of that river. They were here attacked and defeated, part flying along the left bank of the Araxes to Sardarabad, and the other part towards the Turkish frontiers. Many of the Persians were killed, and many horsemen were drowned in crossing the Araxes. The camp equipage and private baggage of Hassan Khan were captured. Fifty-three prisoners were taken, all severely wounded; among whom were the Aga of Kourtine, and the Aga Tchekbok of Karaghi. The enemy had 300 men killed or drowned, among whom were the Chebok of Karagh, the Aga of Karapapak, and Mustapha Beg of Khoi. Hassan Khan was indebted for his safety to the swiftness of his horse.

Aslan, sultan of the Shadlines, has sent to declare that he and the families subject to him did not consent to the emigration to the other side of the Araxes, to which the Persian government wanted to compel them, and that he had fortified himself in the castle of Aslan Kali, near Lake Gokcha. The Sirdar of Erivan has sent to the town of Kazbin all his valuable effects, and even the golden crescent of the mosque of Erivan, which makes the inhabitants presume that he does not expect to preserve that fortress. A report is even spread that he intended to evacuate it. It is said, also, that troubles have broken out in Khorasan, and on the frontiers of the Afghans.

The garrison of Erivan make frequent sallies. According to the accounts of the Armenians who escape from Erivan, the inhabitants of that city, near 5,000 in number, are in want of provisions, and the bad air causes putrid fevers. The prisoners state that Naghi Khan and Vekil Ismael Aga are in the vicinity of Mount Ararat, and all the inhabitants of the province of Erivan have gone to the right bank of the Araxes. A great number of them are destitute of corn, and live on milk and cheese. The Persians wanted to make them retire to a greater distance, but they refused to go any farther from their own country. Hassan Khan is at Ghedi-Bourak, beyond the Araxes, with 5,000 cavalry and infantry, composed of the troops of Ourmia and Kourds. On the 21st of May (2d June) General Pas-

kewitsch began his movement beyond Bezobdal.

Defeat of the Russians.—The following account of the subsequent operations of Gen. Benkendorff appears in the Petersburg papers.

Upon information that Hassan Khan was on the right bank of the Araxes, with some cavalry opposite a convenient ford, and that he hindered the inhabitants of the left bank from returning to their villages, Gen. Benkendorff advanced, on the 6th of June, from Echmiadzin towards Sardarabad, with a battalion of chasseurs, 100 grenadiers of Georgia, two pieces of cannon, and 950 cossacks. On the 8th, at five in the morning, he arrived at the village of Feuda, one verst from the Araxes. By the reports of the Armenians, Hassan Khan had really been in that village with his cavalry, 500 infantry, and three pieces of cannon, but had hastily left it at day-break, and gone farther down the river. The Armenians also declared that the inhabitants were in the mountains at least sixty wersts from the bank of the river. Gen. Benkendorff, desiring to ascertain the enemy's force, undertook to reconnoitre in person; and leaving the chasseurs and the cannon on the left bank, he crossed the Araxes with 100 tirailleurs and the cossacks. Two wersts from the river he occupied the village of Khan Mar-not, and ordered Major Verbitsky, commanding the 4th regiment of cossacks of the Black Sea, to observe the enemy with 300 cossacks. Yielding to the solicitations of that officer, Gen. Benkendorff permitted him to attack the Persians, who had approached to the number of 200 men; but he enjoined him to be very circumspect not to separate from the detachment, and he at the same time gave orders to Col. Karpoff to hold himself in readiness with the rest of the cossacks. When he learned that Verbitsky was advancing, he sent Col. Karpoff to support him. The enemy retreated towards the mountains, passing before the village of Kassim Djan, and drew the cossacks into strong ground, intersected by ravines, where Major Verbitsky, led away by his bravery, fell upon the Persians, and had nearly broken their right wing, when a considerable number of cavalry, which had been in ambush, took the cossacks on the flank. In this attack Major Verbitsky and Capt. Ouschakoff were killed. The cossacks defended themselves bravely, but, deprived of their commander, and overpowered by numbers, they were obliged to fall back. The arrival of Col. Karpoff stopped the pursuit of the Persians, and obliged them to retreat towards the mountains. Besides the two officers, the cossacks lost 102 men. The enemy lost above 200 men, including ten officers, whose horses were taken by the cossacks.

CHARACTERS OF THE PERSIAN CHIEFS.

The characters of the leading chiefs, who have joined the Persians in the hostilities with Russia, are calculated to throw some light upon the causes and probable course of the war, and we have therefore collected the following notices of them, from materials with which we have been favoured.

One of the principal refugee chiefs is Alexander Mirza, the son of Heraclius, the last Wali of Georgia. He has been some years in Persia, and is a man of enterprise: he is not, however, considered entitled to confidence, even by his own countrymen, an insurrection of whom, against the Russian government, he formerly headed. The insurrection was suppressed chiefly by the Georgians themselves, who discovered that their prince had engaged to barter them as slaves to the Lesghes as the price of their assistance. The Georgians have not shewn any disposition to rise on the present occasion against their rulers.

The hereditary chief of Kerabagh, Meh-dee Kooli Khan, was recognized in that capacity upon the death of his father, who first invited the Russians into the province as his allies against Persia. He continued to govern the province under the Russian authorities for some time, until dissensions occurred between him and General Madadoff, which alienated his attachment to his masters. He was at variance with his younger brother, Mohammed Hosein Khan, whose son, Jaffer Kooli Khan, being attacked at night, whilst travelling through the country, the chief, although not implicated in the transaction, apprehended it would be laid to his charge, and that he might be put under personal restraint; to avoid which he fled to Persia. The Russian general succeeded to the government of his possessions, in which, however, their ancient chief has found numerous adherents amongst the Christian as well as Mussulman population.

Mir Hosein Khan, the hereditary chief of Talish, governed the greater part of that province under the Russians, whom he had been chiefly instrumental in introducing into the district. During the late negotiations respecting the boundary, it appeared that the Russian commandant at Lankeroon, suspecting the fidelity of this chief, seized his wife as a hostage, an outrage of Asiatic prejudice that may be well imagined to have urged the chief to desperate measures. He immediately flew to arms, made an unsuccessful attempt to rescue his wife, and called upon the court of Persia for protection.

Abdool Hosein Khan is a relation of the preceding, and held part of Talish under his own authority. He declared at first for Russia, but upon the approach of a Persian division, proffered his sub-

mission, and betrayed into their hands a Russian party that had been sent to his support. The Persian commander nevertheless thought it necessary to send him as a prisoner to Sultaniah, where he was liberated, treated with much attention, and sent back to his province.

The ruler of Shervan, Mustapha Khan, who had been often actively opposed to the Persians, joined the Russian military force, and held in it the rank of general. He was also appointed an adjutant-general of their army. Disagreements with the Russian officers, it is said, deprived them of his attachment, and he quitted the service and repaired to Persia. He is much beloved in his province, and no sooner made his appearance, than he was joined by great numbers of the inhabitants.

The chief of Shekee fled on its becoming a Russian province, first to Persia, and next to Turkey, where he died. His sons, of whom the oldest is about sixteen, returned to their native district as soon as the war broke out, and were immediately joined by the greater part of the armed population.

Sooltan Ahmed Khan, chief of Kobbal and Derbund, Hosein Kooli Khan, chief of Badkoh, Oghurloo Khan, of Ganja, and Ali Khan, of Roodbar, are other chiefs who deserted their hereditary governments rather than acknowledge the Russian authority. They have all returned to their several districts, and have been well received by their former subjects and followers.

Soorkh Lall, a chief of the Lesghes, although a fugitive in Persia for many years, abandoned his country in consequence of intestine feuds amongst the tribes. These have operated to prevent a general rising of the Lesghes, and the son of Soorkh Lall's brother has a separate and powerful interest in the country opposed to his uncle.

Ahool Futteh Khan, the brother of Medhee Khooli Khan, of Kerabagh, holds the territory of Kapan, which is one main subject of contention between Russia and Persia. His allegiance is claimed by both, and he has occasionally admitted the pretensions of either. He has latterly adhered to Persia, but is not supposed to have any attachment except to his own interests.

The district of Kapan is claimed by Russia, because by the treaty of Gulistan the river of Kapanak, which is said to rise in the Alenguz mountains, and to run behind the hills of Megree, was declared to be the boundary. The Persians say this river is not known as the Kapanak, but the Megree, and that the former term was a mistake for the river of Kapan or Kapang, as it is sometimes written. The war seems, therefore, to depend upon a vowel

vowel point, and to be one of the consequences of oriental orthoepy, in which vowels are represented only by marks that are usually omitted. Each support their assertions by an appeal to ancient records and to the geography of the place. The Persians, however, seem to have been permitted to hold the district for some time after the treaty, as it is allowed that they collected the revenues, that the Russian troops were withdrawn from it, and in a map of the frontier constructed by the quarter-master general of the Russian army, and published by authority, Kapan is included within the Persian boundary—as to Gokcha no right is urged by the Russians; they have occupied it, and they will keep it until the Persians agree to cede Kapan in perpetuity. There can be little doubt that the cause of the war is Russian encroachment, but a temperate discussion of the question would have probably been more likely to have adjusted it to the profit and credit of Persia, than the present precipitate appeal to arms. —[*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Feb. 13.*]

The Persian Gulf.

Accounts from the Gulf of Persia mention that Ramah Bin Jabir, an Arab chief long celebrated for his turbulent and daring disposition, has experienced a fate characteristic of the whole course of his life. His violent aggressions having united the Arabs of Bahrene and Katiffe against him, they blockaded his port of Daman, from which Ramah Bin Jabir, having left a garrison in the fort under his son, had sailed in a well appointed bugalow, for the purpose of endeavouring to raise a confederacy of his friends in his support. Having failed in this object he returned to Daman, and, in spite of the boats blockading the port, succeeded in visiting his garrison, and immediately re-embarked, taking with him his youngest son. On arriving on board his bugalow he was received by his followers with a salute, which decisive indication of his presence immediately attracted the attention of his opponents, one of whose boats, commanded by Shaik Ahmid Bin Suliman, a nephew of the Shaik of Bahrene, proceeded to attack him. A desperate struggle ensued, and Shaik Ahmed, finding after some time that he had lost nearly the whole of his crew by the fire of Ramah's boat, retired for reinforcements. These being obtained, he immediately returned singly to the contest, nobly prohibiting any of the other boats of the fleet from joining in the conflict. The fight was renewed with redoubled fury, when at last, Ramah, being informed (for he has been long blind) that his men were falling fast around him, mustered the re-

mainder of the crew, and issued orders to close and grapple with his opponent. When this was effected, and after embracing his son, he was led with a lighted torch to the magazine, which instantly exploded, blowing his own boat to atoms, and setting fire to that of Shaik Ahmed, which immediately afterwards shared the same fate. Shaik Ahmed and a few of his followers escaped to the other boats, but only one of Ramah's brave crew was saved; and it is supposed that upwards of 300 men perished in this heroic contest.—[*Bom. Cour. Jan. 20.*]

Central Asia.

BOKHARA.

Intelligence of some importance has reached England *via* Russia, respecting the affairs of Bokhara, or Great Bucharia. Meer Hyder Khan, the late chief of that state, who died the latter end of last year, was succeeded by his eldest son, Meer Hussain Khan. This prince died in the beginning of the present year, after a reign of only four months; and Omar, the third son of the late Meer Hyder, seized upon the government to the prejudice of his elder brother, Batkar Khan, the second son of Hyder. Batkar Khan, however, collected his partizans, and after taking several towns, laid siege to Bokhara, where Omar held out for two months; but being in danger of famine, he was obliged to submit, and to abdicate the government in favour of his brother. The new khan, it is said, is preparing to march against Tashkand.

China.

Canton.—Local News.—Le, the new Governor of Canton, who entered upon office 23d September last, has distinguished himself by forbidding an idol procession, to which the inhabitants of Canton had subscribed, it is said, 300,000 dollars.

The Hoppo has thrown a fresh impediment in the way of petitions: a notice has appeared in Hong-lane, prohibiting foreigners from presenting petitions at the city gates, "as a number of turbulent foreigners lately have done. The proper way to present petitions," it is said, "is to give them to the Hong merchants, to be by them transmitted to government, after having translated them into Chinese." Traitorous Chinese who assist foreigners to write petitions are threatened with punishment.

It is reported that a new Hoppo has been appointed at court. He is said to be Wan-Léen, a Manchow Tartar, younger brother of Ying-bo, fifth minister of state. He has been Hoppo at Hwa-gan-foo, in Nan-

Nan-king. There has been, it is rumoured, a considerable defalcation in the revenue, on which account he has been recommended by his brother to the hoppoship of Canton.

From the *Peking Gazette*, it appears that the Board of Revenue have had protracted deliberations on the state of the finances. It is by them declared that the income of government is not adequate to the expenditure. The deficit is ascribed to the heavy expenses incurred by repairing the banks of the Yellow River, by insurrections of the Meaou-tsze mountaineers, but chiefly from the movements of the grand army to oppose the Mahomedan rebels. To meet the expenditure, the board recommend his Majesty to abandon his resolution, not to make any new revenue laws. They suggest an increase of the charges paid by those who purchase nominal rank; and also a revival of the usage laid aside by the present emperor on his accession to the throne, which allowed those who had been deprived of office to repurchase eligibility to the same office. "Now, in the time of financial embarrassment," say the board, "it should be remembered that China has been preserved in a state of social order and tranquillity by the reigning family upwards of one hundred and eighty years; and there is not a subject living who eats the herbs and treads the soil of China who has not been born and bred under the auspices of the dynasty. It is therefore expected that both the literary class and the common people will not regret a trifling addition to the taxes, but will rejoice and leap for very gladness to come forward and assist on the present occasion." Appended to the suggestions of the board there is a list of the items of increased taxes, and the regulations to be observed by those who repurchase official situations.

In Hong Lane there has been pasted up a MS. placard, with the name of the person whose father was killed at Ling-Ting, in the affair of the *Topaz*, saying, that to revenge his father's death, he is seeking for an opportunity to murder Howqua. Under this declaration, there are twelve lines of verse repeating what was said in prose to the Governor of Canton in the late petition: that his father and brother-in-law were both killed by foreigners, that seven houses were destroyed by shot fired from the *Topaz*, and that ten thousand taels were plundered from the island. He then states that he had appealed to the Emperor, and received his Majesty's commands to seize the foreigner, but Howqua had accepted of bribes to let him go away. He has bewailed his distress during six years, invokes heaven, and announces his determination to have his revenge satisfied; and then

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winds up by requesting the lovers of justice to give him an hundred pieces of gold to enable him to go again to the Emperor. As he does not know the "slave" Howqua personally, he asks any one to point him out, and he will instantly rip open his bowels.

The Insurrection in the North.—There is a sullen silence preserved at Canton concerning the rebellion of the Mahomedan tribes. The local government, however, is said to consider it in every way a serious national calamity: if suppressed the expense will be ruinous; and some individuals who read the stars think the dynasty is drawing to a close. The replies of his Majesty to memorials on national affairs contained in the gazette are very laconic, such as "record the document," "be it so," "I know it." The Canton paper of October 29th observes that in consequence of the disturbances in Kan-suh province, and in the Mahomedan territories, the Board of Revenue has directed the governors of all the provinces to prepare contributions for defraying the necessary expenses of the imperial forces; that his Excellency the Governor and the other great officers of the province have arranged that the government officers, above the rank of a Foo magistrate, shall contribute to the amount of 400,000 taels (it is however known to be the fact, that of this sum one-fourth is given by the senior Hong merchant); that the salt merchants shall contribute 400,000, and the Hong merchants 600,000.

The *Peking Gazette* contains a few documents from the Emperor, urging the utmost attention and care in providing supplies, and sending them uninterruptedly after the army that has gone to Ha-mi, a place situated in 43° N. lat., and in 21° W. of Peking.

In an edict the Emperor says that, about a year ago, he directed all governors, deputy governors, treasurers, and judges of provinces, when writing letters of thanks, to employ the Tartar term *Noo-tsue*, "slave," for the pronoun *I*; but on official business of a general nature to use the Chinese term *Chin*, "servant." This rule was, he says, distinctly stated to be for civilians; but the governor of Kan-suh, who is a Manchow military officer, has presumed to drop the term "slave," and call himself "servant," in a late despatch sent to his Majesty. This affectation of Chinese phraseology the Emperor considers very improper, and commands that it be not again adopted by Tartar military officers.

Distress in the Interior.—One of the *Peking gazettes* contains a long letter from the government of that province on the distress which prevails in the southern part of it, first from excessive rains, and subsequently from a want of rain. The

expense to government in supplying the starving poor with rice-water, &c. he estimates at several hundred thousand taels.

Macao.—From all we can understand, the settlement of Macao seems to be in a state of great depression, moral, no less than political. The people apparently have lost all confidence in their rulers, and there is not that general feeling of security for person and property, without which there can be little or no commerce, and certainly no public prosperity. If it be correct, too, that the government wink at practices of swindling by persons in authority, the circumstance indicates a very low state of the treasury, and a spirit of flagrant corruption that may be considered as a sure sign of rapid decline in the administration that sanctions it.—[*Bom. Cour.*]

DEATH.

Jan. 3. At Macao, Daniel Beale, Esq.

Cochin China.

A rebellion has broken out in Cochin China, and was raging in November last. An embassy had arrived at Bangkok from the court of Hué, the object of which was to prevent the Siamese from succouring the insurgents.

Australia and Polynesia.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

LAW.

Criminal Court, February 20.—John Walton, William Douglas, John Edwards, Chas. Clay, alias Todhunter, John Smith, Richard Hicks, William Browne, James O'Neil, Edward Colthurst, Charles Daley, and William Ryan, were capitally indicted for piratically seizing of the brig *Wellington*, the property of Mr. Joseph Underwood, at sea, forty leagues from Norfolk Island, on the South Seas, on the 21st December last, and stealing a quantity of clothing and muskets, the property of the crown.

Mr. John Harwood, master of the brig *Wellington*, deposed that he sailed from Sydney on the 11th December last, bound to Norfolk Island, chartered by government to convey sixty-six male prisoners, a party of soldiers, and stores, to that settlement. Whilst in lat. 31°, and long. 164°, about 250 miles distant from Norfolk Island, on the 21st of Dec., as the ship's officers were employed in taking the ship's altitude about noon, some of the prisoners rushed forward, secured the officers and crew, while others rose upon the guard and forced them below. The prisoner Douglas approached witness and presented a loaded musket, which he had previously got forcible possession of from

one of the soldiers. Another prisoner named Lynch at the same time laid hold of witness, commanding him to surrender. Lynch shouted "liberty or life;" several other prisoners surrounded witness and confined him a prisoner on deck. Douglas stood over him with a musket. Walton shortly came up and demanded his charts, which were given him. Walton then asked witness which was the nearest port to put into for water, as he declared he was not going to Norfolk Island. Witness advised him to make for the Bay of Islands, or New Caledonia, but recommended the former place. Walton adopted the suggestion, and altered the course of the vessel accordingly. The prisoners then confined below two passengers and the first and second mate. The sailors were put into an after cabin; the troops were put down the fore hatchway with some of the prisoners who had not joined in the piracy. Same evening a gale of wind sprung up, the sailors were in consequence ordered on deck, and commanded to work the vessel. The troops had their muskets loaded at the time they were taken by the prisoners; heard several shots fired about that time. As soon as the prisoners had got possession of the ship, they gave three cheers, and shouted liberty or life; they then began to knock off their irons. Walton instantly assumed the command; a steward, and a first and second mate were resolved to be appointed out of their own number. Prisoner Douglas was elected by his associates to be the first officer, prisoner Edwards second officer, and prisoner Clay steward. The *Wellington* was proceeded with to New Zealand. On arriving there the *Sisters* and *Harriet* whalers were lying at anchor. Captains Duke and Clark, of the respective vessels, came in company on board the *Wellington*. They made a second visit in the evening of the same day. Witness was assisted by one of the New Zealand natives to convey a note privately to Mr. Fairburn, a missionary, intended for Capt. Duke, acquainting him of the situation of the ship, and enclosing the manifest, &c. Capt. Duke came on board several times after. Walton made a visit to the *Sisters*: he returned home shortly after, saying he wished he knew who was the writer of a letter out of the ship, for he would knock that man's brains out. About day-light on the following Sunday morning a shot was fired from the *Sisters*; a second shot was fired about two minutes after, which cast away the fore-topmast rigging of the *Wellington*. The *Harriet* next opened a fire upon the brig, and discharged the whole of her six guns. The two ships continued to keep up an irregular fire, but ceasing at intervals. The prisoners ran below, leaving the deck clear. They did not return the fire. Witness told Walton that several canoes of natives, provided with

with 200 stand of arms, were coming on board, and intended to massacre the whole. The prisoners then consulted together, and some paper writing was sent to Capt. Duke, of the *Sisters*. This was followed by a dismissal of all the natives about the shore. Some of the prisoners left the vessel for the shore. The remainder continued on board, where they were locked below with the soldiers. The former were re-taken on shore by the natives and brought back to the vessel. The occupations of the prisoners at the bar were as follow:—Walton acted as captain, Douglas chief mate, Edwards 2d mate, Clay steward, O'Neil serjeant of the guard, Brown an ordinary seaman, and the remaining four men as soldiers.

Mr. Wm. Buchanan, and several other witnesses, confirmed the master's testimony.

The jury considered for ten minutes, and found all the prisoners guilty.

This subject has excited intense interest in the colony.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Petition to Parliament.—The petition from the inhabitants of this colony agreed on the 26th January to be presented to the House of Commons, from which we gave extracts in our last number, contains the following paragraphs, equally remarkable:

"That your humble petitioners are the more anxious to impress on the consideration of your honourable house the expediency of establishing a legislative body sufficiently numerous in the first instance to counteract the influence before adverted to, because that influence would probably be strengthened by a body of about sixty civil officers and military officers together, holding civil offices, the higher orders of whom might possibly obtain seats in such an assembly, and the whole of them combine a weight of interest in the assembly and out of it, which nothing but independent numbers could resist, and which, if not resisted, would place the money of your humble petitioners in the hands of those whose duty of public economy would be in direct opposition to their private interests.

"That degraded as your humble petitioners consider their present political condition, in being deprived of those ancient birthrights and bulwarks of the British constitution, trial by jury, and taxation by representation, and inefficient as their present system of government has been found to administer to their growing wants and to foster their nascent industry, they nevertheless beg humbly to assure your honourable house that they would prefer continuing in that degraded condition in which they are, rather than have an elective legislature created among them

of such circumscribed extent as would leave them the name of "popular representation," whilst, in reality, it delivered them into the hands of an oppressive and rapacious oligarchy.

"That in order to remove any doubts which your honourable house might entertain as to the capability of your humble petitioners to furnish so large a number of members, and of so limited a population, your humble petitioners further beg leave to state, that there are at present among them eighty-eight gentlemen who have been raised to the magistracy, as well on account of their property and education, as on account of their residence in the various districts of which the colony is at present composed, and that three times as many more gentlemen are to be found among them, who, though not required to act as magistrates, are equally fitted by their wealth and talents to act as members of a legislative assembly. These numbers, it must be needless to suggest to your honourable house, are advancing in rapid progression, as well from emigration as from natural increase, and must be considerably augmented by these causes before any representative system can be organized among your humble petitioners.

"That in petitioning your honourable house, however, for an elective assembly, invested with the like faculties that belong to the legislative assemblies in all the rest of his Majesty's British plantations, your humble petitioners are aware that they would solicit a very equivocal boon did they not at the same time apprise your honourable house there are certain private families among them (being the same before-mentioned few, who are inimical to Trial by Jury) possessing sufficient wealth and influence to monopolize for themselves and their nominees a great many votes in whatever elective legislature may be established, and that to neutralize this influence and to give the colonists a real voice in the management of their affairs, it will be expedient, in the judgment of your humble petitioners, that the legislative assembly, whenever it may be constituted, should not consist of fewer than 100 members."

It would appear, from more recent accounts, that the Rev. Mr. Reddall, a clergyman in the colony, has fallen under the displeasure of the archdeacon (Scott) for attending this meeting.

Tea.—The contract last week for tea, for Government use, was taken, we understand, at sevenpence-halfpenny sterling per pound. The present stock on hand is calculated at 5,130 chests, equal to four years' consumption for the whole colony.—*Australian*, Dec. 27.

Sugar Plantations.—At the sugar plantations of Port Macquarie, they have lately been obliged to set first to forty or fifty

fifty acres of sugar cane, for want of the necessary mill-work to extract the juice and complete the manufacture.—*Ibid.*

Grant to Sir T. Brisbane.—We are very happy to hear that Sir Thos. Brisbane is about to receive a large grant of land in this colony. The order to allow his agent to select ten thousand acres has been here, we believe, for some weeks. Sir Thomas will thus have a real and substantial interest in the welfare of the colony—an interest which will prevent his zeal from slumbering, and serve to remind him of his undertaking to further the wishes of the colonists, as far as his individual support and the support of his connections can tend to this end. We consider the acres in the light of a healing balm to him.—*[Ibid. Mar. 3.]*

Lake discovered.—A large inland sea or lake has been discovered 250 miles to the westward of Wellington Valley. The part in which it is supposed to exist has never yet been tracked by a European. The natives, who have furnished the tidings, describe it in such a way as to leave little doubt of the accuracy of the information. Two tribes of them who had been at war with each other, but who had just effected a reconciliation, lately came to Wellington Valley, and made known that they had penetrated to the distance we mentioned, namely, two hundred or two hundred and fifty miles full west of the valley. This hint may lead to some important discovery, and it would be well if it were profited of as early as possible. The water spoken of, it is supposed, has some communication with the river Macquarie.—*[Ibid.]*

Trade with the Society Islands.—It is supposed that the expectations of the Pearl Fishery Company will, to a fair extent, be realized. The first trip of the first two ships taken into their service, viz. the *Rolla* and the *Sir George Osborne*, has been attended with considerable success. The *Sir George Osborne* has been despatched to England with a full cargo of a pay-promising description. The cargo consists principally of shells, arrow-root, coco-nut oil, &c. &c. &c., a great deal of which has been obtained at the Society Islands by a traffic with the natives, who receive articles of English fabric in exchange. This species of trade might be made profitable by some of our enterprising and resident merchants. All English goods, such as cottons, woollens, hardware, &c. are eagerly sought after by the natives of the above islands; and the raw produce of which they are possessed may be, by means of such articles, obtained on easy terms, and used as a convenient remittance for the English cargoes. Importations would then prove a real good.—*[Ibid.]*

Agricultural Society.—A meeting took

place in February of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of the colony. The report represents the crop of wheat to be a saving one, and that of maize as promising where it has been sown in rich alluvial soil, but a failure on fresh land. Tobacco is stated to be less extensively grown since the reduction of the duty. The condition of the vineyard is mentioned as extremely luxuriant. The influence of the turf club, in encouraging the breed of horses, forms a subject of congratulation, as also the increasing numbers and the improvement in quality of the breeds of horned cattle. An improvement in the quality of wool produced from sheep of the Saxon breed is also noticed.

Australian Press.—Our readers may be amused with an article which we have extracted from an English magazine, *The Asiatic Journal*, of and concerning "the letters" of the colony, and which contains excerpts from the newspapers of Australia, interspersed with the remarks of the editor of the magazine.* The publication of the article here may prove very serviceable, as it may be taken as a cautionary hint by our colonial writers, and may teach them to be more wary in the use of their pen, and not to injure the fame and reputation of the colony by their injudicious and vulgar productions. It cannot be unknown to them that the works which issue from the press of any society, particularly from a new society, are invariably appealed to as a proof of the state of society, its taste and manners. If, therefore, scribblers cannot, out of respect for themselves, forbear from a coarse style of writing, they ought at least, for the sake of others, to put their pen under some restraint; and though their inclination and their animosities afford a strong inducement to indulge in personal abuse and violent scurrilities, they ought to remember that they will injure the community, if they do not check their predilections. We very much fear that the misuse of the colonial press will not only be reprobated in England, by the various public writers and by the public; but that it will have a strong tendency to prejudice the colony in the estimation of impartial observers. Considering with whom the offensive mode of writing has originated, and to what quarter it has almost exclusively been limited, it is not unlikely that the administration of the colony will come in for its share of reproof. The article which we have inserted, we repeat, may prove beneficial. Let hot-headed manufacturers of "leaders" take heed!—*[Australian, Feb. 23.]*

NEW ZEALAND.

The Wesleyan Mission.—A full account

* See vol. xxi. p. 35.

of the circumstances attending the recent expulsion of the Wesleyan missionaries from New-Zealand is given in the Sydney papers.

This mission was established, in June 1823, in a beautiful valley, named Wesleydale, seven miles from the mouth of a river which empties itself into the harbour of Wangaroa, and twenty miles from Kere Kere, the nearest settlement of the Church Missionary Society in the Bay of Islands. A tribe of natives, consisting of about 200, inhabited the valley, and another tribe of about 600 dwelt five miles off. To these two tribes the missionaries directed their labours. A school was established, which was attended daily by about twenty native youths, and expectations were indulged of ultimate success. A distant chief, named Ilongi, celebrated for his power and mischievous character, projected an attack upon the two tribes just mentioned, which he carried into execution in the beginning of January last. Upon the arrival of his men in the valley they proceeded to plunder the mission house, and gave the missionaries distinct intimation that unless they removed, they incurred the risk of escaping "with their skins only." They remained, however, till every hope vanished, and on the 10th January set out for the Church Missionary station at Kere Kere. Their party consisted of Messrs. Turner and Hobbs, missionaries; Mrs. Turner, who had been confined only five weeks, and was still very weak; three small children; Miss Davis, a young lady of the church mission, on a visit; Luke Wade, an English servant, and his wife, who had been for several weeks extremely ill, and was hardly able to move; five native boys and two native girls; in all sixteen persons. They had before them a journey of twenty miles, over a most rugged and mountainous country, of which some of the hills are so steep, that, but for the roots of trees, which form a sort of steps, they would be almost inaccessible. They met on the road, a large party of natives advancing to the aid of the tribes attacked, who offered them no injury. Six miles from Kere Kere, the Rev. Mr. Williams, and other members of the church mission, with a party of natives, met them; the latter carried the females, who were exhausted, to the station. Whilst at this place, and Paibia, another church missionary station in the Bay of Islands, they found that the island was in great commotion from the feuds of the natives, who had burnt and demolished the mission house at Wesleydale, and killed the cattle, poultry, &c.; the church missionaries in the northern part of the island were under great alarm for their safety, and shipped some of their property on board the vessels in the harbour, and con-

cealed some of their valuables in the earth.

The Wesleyan missionaries quitted New Zealand in the *Three Sisters*, on the 28th January (at which time a large party of natives was lying in Kororarika Bay, on the east side of the Bay of Islands), and they arrived at Sydney on the 9th February. The missionaries close their account thus: "We forbear to express our opinions as to what may be the result of this tumultuous state of things, though we cannot but fear that the immediate consequences will be disastrous. However, we beg to be distinctly understood, that our mission to New Zealand, though suspended, is by no means abandoned. While we are not blind to the difficulties which at present obstruct its progress, we are convinced that it may yet be prosecuted with rational hope of extensive and lasting usefulness."

New Zealand Company.—The bark *Rosanna*, which came up from New Zealand on Sunday night (Feb. 11) brings up twenty-five persons who were in the employment of the New Zealand Company. A design, it appears, was formed by the natives to seize upon this vessel, during her stay at New Zealand, where she has been for ten months. The hostility of the natives rendered it necessary that the Company's servants should sleep on board nightly; and every man on board was obliged to take his turn in the nightly watch. The black chiefs were occasionally permitted to come on board. On one of their visits, a New Zealander, who is usually employed by captains of vessels touching at the settlement as an interpreter, communicated to the captain of the *Rosanna* the intended plan of his countrymen to seize the vessel. The natives, it is said, were anxious to get the powder, ten tons of which were on board. Powder had been used as a means of barter with the natives for land. The land thus obtained was worked upon by the Company's men, cleared, and cultivated, without interruption from the natives. These were, however, at last, by two of the chiefs who had been up to Sydney, induced to form a plan to massacre all the British inhabitants on the island. The missionaries obtained information of these intentions from some of their converts. The discovery was made in time to prevent the dreadful consequences. The missionaries hastened to the ship, compelled to relinquish all further efforts to convert the natives to Christianity.—[*Australian*, Feb. 14.

The agent for the New Zealand Company has entirely abandoned all the views entertained by the company of fixing a permanent establishment on that island. The emigrants who came out in the Company's service have been offered a passage back

back to England in the first ship, at the expense of the Company; this was a stipulation between the parties prior to sailing. It is likely that some of them will avail themselves of the offer. They are disposed, we hear, to remain in this colony.—[*Ibid.* Feb. 17.

The cargo of the *Rosanna*, and the agricultural implements, &c. belonging to the Company, have since been disposed of.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 8. At Sydney, T. G. Pitman, Esq., to Miss Eliza Foster.

Jan. 23. At Launceston, Mr. P. Dalrymple, of the commissariat, to Miss M. Pear, of Sydney.

Feb. 7. At Bathurst, J. P. Mackenzie, Esq., of Dochcairn, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of T. F. Hawkins, Esq., of Blackdown.

16. At Sydney, W. D. Kelman, Esq., of Macquarie River, Van Diemen's Land, to Catherine, daughter of J. Busby, Esq., of Sydney, civil engineer and mineral surveyor.

24. At Sydney, A. Gibson, Esq., assist. surg. New South Wales Veteran Corps, to Miss Alice Faithful.

March 5. At Sydney, Mr. S. M'Donald to Miss Coulson, daughter of the late Quarter Master Coulson, 3d regt.

DEATHS.

Feb. 21. Mr. R. Cheers, one of the oldest inhabitants of the colony.

27. At Harrington Park, Sydney, Wm. Campbell, Esq.

28. Mr. Jones, of York Street, Sydney.

Lately, Mr. Michael Robinson, many years principal clerk in the Police Office at Sydney, aged 92.

Turkey.

JEWISH CONVERTS AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

It appears that some considerable sensations have been created amongst the Turks, as well as the Jews, at Constantinople, by the circumstance of several of the latter having been converted to Christianity by the exertions of some missionaries from England, connected with the Church Missionary Society. A late *Register* of this society contains the following account of an interview with a Turkish officer of rank, obtained by Mr. Hartley, one of the missionaries, in order to intercede for the convicts, who, it appears, are confined with heavy chains, and compelled to labour in the arsenal, under the Turkish guards, who beat them and treat them with great cruelty; whilst their fellow Jews persecute them for their apostasy.

Dec. 4, 1826.—The Jews, according to their ancient custom, have laid many and grievous accusations against the converts, which they are not able to prove. They have paid immense sums, in order to satiate their vengeance; and, as we cannot think of outbribing the judges, we must leave the affair in the hands of God. These were my feelings in the morning. At noon my heart condemned me; and I could not rest without making some further attempt in behalf of my persecuted brethren. I went in consequence to the

Pasha-Rapshy, or the Porte, as it is usually called by Europeans, and obtained admission to a Turk of distinction: *he had himself once been a Jew*; and he informed me, almost immediately on my introduction, that he was well acquainted with the New Testament, and also with the peculiar sentiments of the Protestants, and that though he was a Mussulman, he was yet "a philosopher." I told him the simple story, that the three prisoners had been convinced of the truth of Christianity before, in fact, I saw them; and that, on one of their friends having been seized by their countrymen, they had fled to me, and I had assisted in concealing them, and had baptized them. I think I fully succeeded in convincing him, that nothing of a political nature was connected with this proceeding. He declared his willingness to do all that was possible for their safety. I particularly urged the request, that the converted Jews might be permitted for the future to live secure from the molestation of their countrymen: "A thing," he replied jocosely, "from which Pilate could not save Jesus Christ himself."

This officer told me plainly, that the Turkish government were at a loss to comprehend the proceedings of the Religious Society in England, which was at such expense in printing and circulating books: they were well acquainted with the conduct of the Jesuits in China and in other countries, and also with the enthusiastic superstition evinced by the Spaniards in former times; but they had always considered the English a nation free from superstition: they were led therefore to suspect that there was some political plot in these proceedings. I assured him that the society to which he alluded was wholly unconnected with the British government; and that though there were, unhappily, Englishmen who were indifferent to all religions, yet the persons who composed this society were men who did indeed believe that the Gospel was from God, and thought it therefore their duty to communicate so inestimable a gift to the whole world. He then indulged in some playful remarks on the impossibility of converting the world by books, alleging that St. Paul had been converted in a different manner, and that this was by no means the method of Moses. He asked me so very particularly what was Mr. Leeves's object in this country, that I am led to think Mr. Leeves has been for some time an object of jealousy to the Turkish government. I told him, that Mr. Leeves's object was, "to sell the Holy Scriptures." Much more was said as to religion; and I feel confident that the conversation removed from his mind all suspicions that our proceedings have a political tendency, or that we are a plotting, Jesuitical fraternity. We became extremely sociable: he said, that

that he would introduce me to other Turks, and take me to the school in which French and various branches of science are taught.

The whole of the scene was to me full of uncommon interest: I was come to rescue, if possible, from death, four persecuted Christians: I was in the building which contained the great offices of the Ottoman empire, and which is dignified with the appellation of the Sublime Porte: the domes and minarets of the mosque of Sultan Suleyman, one of the most magnificent structures in Turkey, were towering above my head: I had passed through spacious halls and passages, all exhibiting specimens of Turkish taste; I was encircled by numerous guards and attendants, arrayed in the splendid diversity of costume observable in Eastern countries; and I was surrounded with all the pomp of Oriental manners. The window of the room in which I found myself commanded a view of the large court, in which were seen horses richly caparisoned awaiting their lordly masters, and in which objects wholly novel to a European eye were continually presenting themselves. "Do you see that officer riding out of the court?" said my Turkish friend. I observed a man whose dress and carriage denoted a person of considerable rank. "He is going," said he, "according to his daily custom, to the Sultan, to acquaint him with the affairs which have been transacted here."—"Does the Sultan," I asked, "pay minute attention to business? Does he know of this affair of the converted Jews?"—"Yes, certainly," said he; "there is nothing that escapes his attention. In Europe you imagine that we

are all barbarians; and that the sultan does nothing all day but loit on his divan and amuse himself; but it is far otherwise; the princes of Europe are far more effeminate than Sultan Mahmoud." He then made various remarks relative to the recent public events, which led me to suppose that the Turks have really been awakened to a sense of their public interest, beyond what I had ever suspected.

I just notice other subjects of conversation, because it may serve to shew that the Turks have men in their service much better informed than is usually supposed. The following topics came forward: religious liberty in England—Roman Catholic emancipation—the King of England, in his character of head of the church—Spanish proceedings in America—the existence of Greek manuscripts in the seraglio—conic sections—the site of ancient cities in Asia Minor—the Koran, &c. He informed me that he was very fond of mathematics, and that he had translated from the French a Treatise on Conic Sections. He also demanded of me, if Mr. Levees had been concerned in the affair of the converted Jews: "concerning myself," I replied, "I am willing to give you any information, but concerning my friend I cannot, in honour, tell you anything."—"When you have made the whole world Christian," he asked, "what will be the consequence?" I replied, "when the precepts of Christianity are universally obeyed, there will be an end of envy, animosities, murders, wars, and of all the other causes of misery. We shall all be brothers; the greatest happiness will every where prevail." He appeared struck with this reply.

INDIAN SECURITIES AND EXCHANGES.

Calcutta, Feb. 22, 1827.

Government Securities.

Buy.]	Ra. As.		Ra. As.	[Sell
Prem.	25 8	Remittable Loan 6 per ct.	24 8	Prem.
Disc.	1 4	Five per ct. Loan.	1 12	Disc.
Par	0 8	New 5 per cent. Loan.	0 14	Disc.

Rates of Exchange.

On London, 6 months' sight,—to buy is 10½d. — to sell is 11d. per Sicca Rupee.
On Madras, 30 days ditto, 92 to 96 Sicca Rupees per 100 Madras Rupees.
On Bombay, ditto, 86 Sicca Rupees per 100 Bombay Rupees.

Bank Shares.—Prem. 5,100 to 5,150.

Madras, Feb. 28, 1827.

Government Securities.

Six per cent. Bengal Remittable Loan.

At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 380	
Madras Ra., per 335 Sa. Ra.	27½ Prem.
At a Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Ra., per 100 Sa. Ra.	26½ Prem.
Five per cent. Bengal Unremittable Loan.	
At the Rate of Subscription, viz. 380	
Madras Ra., per 335 Sa. Ra.	27½ Prem.

At the Rate prevailing among Merchants and Brokers in buying and selling Public Securities, viz. 106½ Madras Ra., per

100 Sa. Ra. 2½ Disc.

Bombay, Feb. 24, 1827.

A Five per cent. Loan open.

Exchange.

On London, at 6 months' sight, 1s. 9d. per Rupee.
On Calcutta, at 90 days' sight, 105 Bom. Ra. per 100 Sicca Rupees.
On Madras, at 30 days' sight, 99½ Bom. Ra. per 100 Madras Rs.

Singapore, Feb. 24, 1827.

Exchange.

Gov. Bills on Bengal, at 30 days' sight, per 100 Sp. Da., Sic. Ra. 208.
Private Bills on ditto—none.
Private Bills on London—none.

Canton, Dec. 29, 1826.

Company's Treasury, closed.

Exchange.

Private Bills on England, at 6 months' sight, 3d. per Sp. Dr.
On Calcutta, at 30 days' sight, 100 Sp. Dra. per 200 Sa. Ra.
Sycee Silver, nominally, 7 Prem.

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

House of Commons, June 29.

Appeal in the matter of Syed Ally.—Mr. Brougham, with reference to the decision of the Privy Council in this case (see p. 134), expressed a hope that the right hon. the President of the Board of Control would seriously apply his mind to the law under which this decision had been made before the next session of Parliament, if the Company really meant, which he could not bring himself to think they did mean, to enforce that extraordinary decision. The court had ruled, that in a question concerning the property of petty princes, the Company succeeding to all such property, a patrimonial right was merged in the right of sovereignty. It had also been declared that if the Company did interfere, as a sovereign, no court could have any jurisdiction in the matter. There could be no doubt that the law on this must be perfectly clear, for the moment the arguments were ended, a decision was given without hesitation—a decision which disposed of one of the largest properties in India (an estate of £20,000 a year), and which reversed that of the courts below.

Mr. Wynn said, that as he was not present when judgment was given in the case to which the hon. and learned gentleman referred, he could not state the ground of that judgment. He certainly did know that very great attention had been given to it, and he should not now like to enter upon the discussion of a decision of the highest court of appeal.

Parliament was on the 2d July prorogued by commission to the 21st August.

LAW.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, July 4.

The King against Sutton and others.—The court granted a rule for a writ of *certiorari* to remove an indictment which had been found at the Middlesex Sessions against five defendants, into this court, for an offence under the 49th Geo. III., for preventing the sale of cadetships.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, July 17.

Rea, v. Haylett.—This was an action of trespass, battery, and false imprisonment. The defendant was captain of the *Georgiana*, East-Indiaman, and the plaintiff the ship's carpenter. The vessel sailed from Calcutta in July last; and on arriving at the Cape, an accident happened to the foremast, which the plaintiff was ordered to repair. He quit the work,

and refused to resume it, alleging he was ill; and according to some of the witnesses, he behaved insolently to the captain. He was put in irons till the ship arrived at Woolwich, when he was told he might go about his business; no proceedings were instituted against him for mutinous conduct.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages £30.

HIGH COURT OF ADMIRALTY, July 20.

Palembang Prize.—This was a claim on the part of the captors of Palembang, against the East-India Company, but virtually against the crown, for certain sums of money alleged to be part of the booty condemned by this court as prize in 1821.

After the capture of Java from the Dutch in 1811, Governor Raffles fitted out an expedition to take Palembang (the Pangerang of which had refused to recognize the British authority, and exterminated the Dutch residents), consisting of about 4,000 troops, under Major-Gen. Gillespie. On the 26th of April 1812 they took the city, the Sultan having retired with all the treasure into the recesses of the island. The British commanders, by a proclamation dated the 5th of May, deposed the Sultan, and placed his brother upon the throne. On the 15th May, the new Sultan, finding himself unable to support his dignity without the moveables, &c. captured by the British army, executed a bond, whereby he agreed to pay 200,000 dollars as ransom of the property. Part of the property captured was subsequently sold, and the proceeds, amounting to 46,000 dollars, were distributed amongst the captors, which reduced the sum due to 154,000 dollars. On the 17th of May a treaty was executed, which stipulated that the Sultan should use his utmost diligence to recover the treasure taken away by the ex-Sultan, and pay to the Company half thereof, part to defray the cost of the armament, and part to be a fine upon the late Sultan. Up to the present period no money has been received by the captors besides the 46,000 dollars. Some years back an arrangement took place between the Crown and the Company, whereby a multitude of claims were adjusted, under an act of Parliament, upon an equitable basis. The Crown received a large sum from the Company, and took their chance of such claims as might be made by those who had demands upon the Company. The trustees for this booty, finding no proceeds accruing, applied to the Treasury, who directed the present application. The prayer of the suitors was, that the Company

pany might be called upon to pay 154,000 dollars, or such part as they might have received from the Sultan of Palembang.

Dr. Lushington, for the captors, complained that although it was known that three separate sums of 10,972 dollars, 5,288 dollars and 23,026 dollars, had been received by the Company's officers, the Company stated that their books shewed no payment whatever by the Sultan.

The King's Advocate stated that the sum of 10,792 dollars was admitted to be due to the captors, and might be decreed *instantly*; that the sum of 5,288 dollars required further examination; and that the sum of 23,026 dollars was paid not to the captors but to the Company, under the treaty, as property recovered from the late Sultan.

Lord Stowell tried to effect a compromise, but in vain.

July 24.

His Lordship this day gave his sentence, that the captors were entitle to the two sums of 10,972 dollars and 5,288 dollars; but that there was not legal evidence to entitle them to the 23,026 dollars. He decreed interest on the 16,000 dollars from 1813.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MISSIONS IN INDIA.

The last number of the *Missionary Register* contains abstracts of various addresses, from authentic reports, delivered at the annual meetings of the societies interested in missions in general. Some of the sentiments expressed by the speakers regarding the East-Indies we shall insert.

Professor Le Bas, at the meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, speaking of Bishop's College, Calcutta, observed: "It has for many years been my lot to labour in an institution (the East-India College at Haileybury) devoted to the best interests of our vast Indian empire: and, for my colleagues in that institution, as well as for myself, I can most confidently say, that it has been our constant aim (I will not say it has been our achievement, for that is more than it might become us to assert, but it *has* been our aim) so to conduct that establishment, that it might send forth, into every department of the Indian civil service, men who by their lives, at least, should do the work of evangelists; and who should thus become faithful auxiliaries to this Society, in its designs for the happiness of mankind. Persons who have been thus occupied, in an East-India college founded in this country, may be supposed to feel something of a peculiar interest in every enterprise directed to the intellectual, the moral, and the spiritual improvement of our Asiatic dominions—to exult, with no

common joy, on hearing of the prosperity and usefulness of that kindred foundation in India, which this resolution commends to the pious liberality of Englishmen. And where, I would ask, is an institution to be found, which puts forth a stronger claim to the support of Englishmen professing the Gospel? Think of the hundred millions of Hindoos who are now governed by a few myriads of our countrymen; and then remember, that Bishop's College was founded to diffuse among those ignorant idolaters the blessings of intelligence—to form a bond of union between our church and the churches which may hereafter arise throughout the vast provinces of India—and to distribute to the very extremities of that *weary land the living waters*, which alone can give health and purity to the soul! And are not these precisely the purposes which seem to be forced upon us by the very course and order of that Providence, which has placed in our hand the destiny of those innumerable and distant multitudes? Can our country look toward Hindoostan without feeling bowed down under the weight of her own glory? Can her children find any rest unto their souls, but in aiding her to discharge her vast and imperial responsibilities?"

The Bishop of Calcutta, at the same meeting, speaking of his predecessors, Dr. Middleton and Dr. Heber, expressed himself as follows: "If ever there was a man well calculated to lay the corner-stone of the church establishment in a foreign land, one whose correctness and precision of judgment, whose uncompromising firmness of mind, whose piety and learning, fitted him for such a purpose, it was Bishop Middleton—one who never swerved from that path which his christianly-formed conscience told him was the true one—one who, if ever man did, *digged deep and laid his foundation on the rock*. Nor were those peculiarities less striking in themselves, however different in their nature, which belonged to that generous and highly-gifted being, whose loss we more recently have mourned: his it was to conciliate, to soothe, to subdue: it was his to win over by his openness and frankness of manner, all that had else beset his path; and to unite all those varying discordant humours that too often arise to perplex and confound the zealous advocate of the Christian cause; while, by the splendour of his talents, he kindled a new flame, and all around him were incited to shew a sympathy with a mind like that of Heber. For myself, my path is clear and open—an humbler task, and yet one which, if heaven spares me a term of years, may not pass without fruit: be it mine to aim at producing a closer union of the Christian body in general, and to endeavour to present a less broken phalanx than heretofore to the enemies of the

cross. It is for this purpose, that honour, wealth, and dignity are given to the station to which it has pleased his Majesty's Government to appoint me: it is for this purpose, to produce Christian harmony and union, that every true church establishment is formed; not by a system of terror, not by inquisitorial means, but by that mild and genial influence which such institutions shed on those around—by adopting in those institutions such principles as long experience has taught us are sound and secure, by forming ourselves on those ideas which the habits and practice of the world have shown us are absolutely necessary to the safety of our moral constitution. For those kind feelings which the Right Rev. Prelate has expressed, with regard to the continuance of my health and life, I am sincerely obliged: these are points on which it does not become us to enter too far: God's will be done! but I speak sincerely when I say that I go in hope, not in fear."

Mr. Jas. M. Strachan, at the meeting of the Church Missionary Society, said, with respect to the improvement in public opinion and feeling in India:—"It is about twenty-five years ago, since it was stated in India, that, at most stations throughout British India, the Christian Sabbath was only known by the hoisting of the British flag, and the peculiar appropriation of the day to parties of pleasure: and, many years later, a pious clergyman at Madras, writing during a period of alarming discord, said that if it should please God to destroy our sway there, scarcely a vestige would remain to shew our successors that a Christian nation had ever had power over that land. There were but four Protestant missionaries in the peninsula of India, from any of the societies which are the glory of the present century; two of them were at Vizagapatam, and two others at Bombay; those at Madras had been permitted to remain, only on condition that they should exchange their spiritual functions for secular occupations. And such was the state of public feeling in India and in England, that men were found credulous enough to suppose, that the disturbances which took place might be owing to the entrance of these men into the country, 700 miles from the scene of action; and, some years afterwards, they were compelled to quit these shores. It was in the year 1813, that the grand contest between the advocates and the opponents of Christian missions took place in this country; and the victory then achieved here was the dawn of a new era to India. The establishment of episcopacy there gave a new cast to our religion. Chaplains of a new order, I am happy to say, have been sent thither; and missionaries have been sent by various institutions, and labour where chaplains

are not placed. The service of the Christian Sabbath is now maintained in all chief stations; and already the increase of religion from the labours of these good men is seen. Even where neither chaplains nor missionaries are found, pious laymen are seen ready to impart the blessings of their sacred religion. The time was, when it was said—and it has wounded the ears of many a man in England—that Europeans, in quitting their native land, left their religion behind them: and who could hear of the desecration of the Christian Sabbath, without admitting, that, in a great measure, this charge must be true? It was then thought a disgrace to be religious; but now, happily, this blessed symbol of our religion—the Christian Sabbath—is revered, and the reproach is wiped away.

"Yet let me not be misunderstood as saying—would, indeed, that there were grounds for saying!—that the British community in India has acquired a religious character. The improvement in public opinion, the turning of the tide in favour of religion, does not include the conversion of Hindoostan; but who does not see that public opinion in favour of missions must progressively tell on the native mind! But especially is it of importance in India, as it raises up exertions in favour of the natives.

"When Bishop Middleton first visited Madras, he established a district committee of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and its exclusive object was the distribution of Bibles and tracts among Europeans; at his second visitation, the Bishop threw out a suggestion that they should connect themselves with the establishment of native schools; but, at the next meeting—I speak from my own knowledge, for I was present—Bishop Middleton stated that he had discovered in the interval that it had been necessary to enter into a compact, that they should not be associated with any attempt whatever to preach the Gospel to the Hindoos! Bishop Heber, when he visited Madras last year, in the same Society threw out a proposition for uniting it with the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, and proposed to form the Society if he should be permitted to return to the presidency; but, to the lasting regret of the Christian church, he was not permitted to return thither, nor to accomplish that among the innumerable objects of his comprehensive and devout mind; but, following up his intention, a Society was formed; and only a few days ago I received the report of its proceedings, which I hold in my hand. I allude to this new institution, in order to shew the difference of public opinion at these two distinct periods; and I doubt not but it will gladden the heart of every person here

here present, when I add, that I find enrolled in this new Society the name of almost every gentleman in Madras, distinguished for his talents, his worth, or his station.

But, having thus borne my humble testimony to the character and the importance of the pursuits in which your missionaries are engaged, I would add, that they have made, in general, such attainments in the languages of the country, and are so acquainted with the native character, their plans have acquired such efficiency at the several stations by the extension of pure and scriptural instruction in their numerous schools, and above all by their discovery of the paramount importance of training up Christian native youths to be future missionaries to their countrymen, that we are justified in indulging a reasonable expectation, that the increased efficiency of your several missions will produce, in time to come, far greater advantages than they have in times that are past."

The Rev. John Edmonds, speaking with reference to the state and prospects of missions in Bengal, at the London Missionary Society, said:—"The common people, who were once despised and disregarded in India, have begun to decide for themselves with a boldness before unknown to them. The Brahmins formerly claimed to be incarnations of the deity, and divine honours were paid to them; and, even now, we see a poor Soodra bowing before the feet of the Brahmin, and begging him to dip his toe in the water which the Soodra afterward drinks; but though they generally adhere to this superstition, thousands now spurn it with detestation. There are many who seem to have acquaintance with the truths of religion, but yet do not practise it—persons who abstain from idolatrous worship, and feel the necessity of the Saviour and the Bible, but hesitate to make a public profession of it; the chain, however of their sins is broken—their character and conduct are improved—and we hail them with delight, hoping that the church of Christ will from them be recruited.

"One circumstance more I will mention: some have broken caste, and have been admitted to baptism. I now call upon all of you, my Christian friends, to praise that God who has enabled your missionaries to persevere; and has given them in India the first fruits, I trust, of an abundant harvest, which they shall ultimately reap. Yes, Hindoos have embraced the Gospel, and churches composed of them have been formed at different places. Although these beginnings are small, and looked on with contempt by heathens and frowned upon by nominal Christians, yet they are, I doubt not, smiled upon by heaven as the germ of that church, which

shall lengthen its cords and strengthen its stakes till it fills all India. There are obstacles in the way, which the power of God alone can remove; but I appeal to this meeting, whether the success has not been sufficient to encourage our exertions, and to determine us to devote our lives and souls to the promotion of the cause of Christ among the heathen."

Dr. Marshman, at the same meeting, and on the same topic, observed: "Can we realize the state of India with its millions of idolaters, and realize it, as above all others, a land of degradation, without feeling new incitements, in addition to those already urged, to perseverance and increased exertion in this cause? And has not Providence given eighty millions of these idolaters to Britain, and made them your fellow-subjects? and has not this been done to stir up the energy of your souls in this great cause? Say for what other purpose a handful of islanders should be called from the farthest part of the sea, and have that empire given them, but to make known to the people the truths of the Gospel? was there any other end worthy of a God of love? From the strong holds of superstition in India, the streams of delusion have gone forth into all parts of Asia: give, then, the millions of Hindoos and Mahomedans there the word of life, and quickly will the light break forth on the right hand and on the left in those very regions where the streams of delusion have spread death for so many hundred years. We have had, during the last twenty-seven years, scenes presented to us in India which have cheered our hearts. We have seen the Hindoo come to receive the word of life; and those, who were prostrate under the yoke of the Brahmins, rise up and declare that they also are men, that they have souls to be saved, and that it is theirs to search the word of life for themselves."

MR. JUSTICE DOWLING.

James Dowling, Esq., of the home circuit, is appointed judge of the Supreme Court at New South Wales.

ELECTION OF A DIRECTOR.

On the 25th July a ballot was taken at the East-India House, for the election of a director, in the room of Edward Parry, Esq., deceased. At six o'clock the glasses were closed and delivered to the scrutineers, who reported the election to have fallen on Lieut. Col. James Law Lushington, C.B. The numbers were

For Col. J. L. Lushington 794

For Col. Sir Wm. Young..... 698

Majority in favour of Col. Lushington 96

THE NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL.

On the 18th July a Court of Directors was held at the East-India House, when the Right Hon. Lord William Cavendish Bentinck, G.C.B., was sworn in, as Governor-General of Bengal.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR RELIGIOUS OBJECTS.

The amount of receipts during the past year, by the four following societies, is as under :

British and Foreign Bible Society	£80,240
Wesleyan Missionary Society	45,380
Church Missionary Society.....	43,230
London Missionary Society.....	35,530

£204,380

THE KING'S COURT.

At the King's Court, held on the 30th June, the following presentations to his Majesty took place:—

John Wyld, Esq., doctor of laws, on being appointed chief justice of the colony of the Cape of Good Hope.

The Rev. Dr. James, on his being appointed Bishop of Calcutta.

Sir John Malcolm, on his being appointed to the government of Bombay.

Mr. Lushington, on his being appointed Governor of Madras.

Major H. Willock, on his return from his mission to the Court of Persia.

J. P. Grant, Esq., on his being appointed one of the judges of the Supreme Court at Bombay.

BISHOP HEBER.

At a meeting, held at the house of the Right Hon. Charles Watkin Williams Wynn, in furtherance of a design commenced at Oxford (see vol. xxiii. p. 688), "to testify, by some public act, the respect felt for the memory of the late Right Rev. Bishop Heber," it was resolved that a committee should be formed for the purpose of promoting the subscription more generally in London and the country at large; and the experience of a very few days having authorized the belief that, when the design shall be more publicly known, ample funds will be collected to erect, in the cathedral church of St. Paul, a monument worthy of Bishop Heber's memory, it was determined, 1st, to extend immediately the subscription for effecting that object; and, 2dly, to appropriate the surplus, if any, to the endowment of an oriental scholarship. The sum required for the monument is about £2,000; the sum already raised is about £2,000.

BISHOP JAMES.

The Rev. Dr. James was consecrated Bishop of Calcutta, at Lambeth, on Sun-

day the 3d June; the sermon was preached by the bishop's brother, who is Vicar of Chobham, in Surrey. The bishop, with Mrs. James and Miss Ommaney, daughter of Sir F. Ommaney, has since sailed for Calcutta.

BISHOP'S COLLEGE, CALCUTTA.

Of the annual grants of £1,000 each, made by the Church Missionary Society to Bishop's College, near Calcutta, for each year from 1822 to 1826 inclusive, those for 1822 and 1823 were appropriated to the immediate purposes of the college; the grant for 1824 having been vested in India waiting its appropriation, and those for 1825 and 1826 having been since voted, the committee have directed that these three grants shall be applied to the placing of the two "Bishop Heber's Church Missionary Scholarships," on the terms offered in the recent revision of the college statutes; that is, the right of nomination to those scholarships is reserved in perpetuity to the society. The committee have placed the grant of £1,000 for the year 1827 at the disposal of the Bishop of Calcutta, in aid of the general objects of the college, to be appropriated in such manner as he shall judge to be most advantageous to its designs.—[Miss. Reg.]

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES
IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST.)

1st Foot. Lieut. A. Stanford, from 33^d F., to be lieutenant, v. Hornsby who exch. (28 June 27).

3d Foot. Ens. M. C. Golden, from 10th F., to be lieutenant, by purch., v. Cormac prom. (28 June); Ens. R. C. Lloyd, from 96th F., to be lieutenant, by purch., v. Burchell prom. (29 June).

16th Foot. Lieut. J. O'Neill, from 95th F., to be lieutenant, v. Hutchinson prom. (26 June).

20th Foot. Ens. W. O'Kelly, from 92d F., to be lieutenant, v. O'Brien dec.; J. C. Bert to be ens. by purch., v. Mlouet: prom. (both 21 June).

40th Foot. Brev. Lieut. Col. W. Balfour to be lieutenant-col.; Brev. Maj. R. Turton to be major, v. Balfour; Lieut. H. Miller to be capt. (all 25 June); Capt. J. K. Jauncey, from h.p., to be capt., v. Turton (26 June); Lieut. J. Pickering, from h.p. 96th F., to be lieutenant; Lieut. J. Ellis, from h.p. 96th F., to be lieutenant; Lieut. W. Molt, from 14th F., to be lieutenant; Lieut. F. Stanford, from 87th F., to be lieutenant; Lieut. F. D. Radford, from h.p. 17th F., to be lieutenant; Lieut. E. A. Slade, from 54th F., to be lieutenant; Lieut. P. Ramsay, from 87th F., to be lieutenant (all 25 June); Ens. J. M'Duff, from 42d F., to be lieutenant; Ens. B. M'Kenzie, from 76th F., to be lieutenant; Ens. B. M'Kenzie, from 76th F., to be lieutenant; Ens. J. H. Browne, from 9th F., to be lieutenant; Ens. J. P. Elliott, from 19th F., to be lieutenant; Ens. A. Phibbs, from 49th F., to be lieutenant (all 26 June); G. Keane to be ens., v. Nicholls dec. (21 June).

41st Foot. Capt. W. Booth to be maj. by purch., v. Bell who rets.; Lieut. T. Vincent to be capt. by purch., v. Booth; Ens. C. Daltry, from 54th F., to be lieutenant, by purch., v. Vincent (all 28 June).

44th Foot. Ens. R. P. Lewis, from h.p., to be ens., v. Daniell app. to 76th F. (26 June); Lieut. E. Woolhouse, from h.p. 84th F., to be lieutenant, v. Alex. Stuart, who exch. (5 July).

48th Foot. Capt. Hon. A. A. Dalsell, from h.p., to be capt., v. T. Weston, who exch. (28 June).

54th Foot. Ens. E. Ross, from 28d F., to be lieutenant, v. Slade app. to 40th F. (26 June).

89th Foot. Ens. M. Pole to be lieut. by purch., v. Barrett prom. in 86th F. (21 June); 2d-Lieut. W. Hope, from Ceylon Regt., to be ens., v. Pole prom. (28 June).

97th Foot. Lieut. A. Gordon, from h.p. 34th F., to be lieut., repaying dif. he received to h.p. Fund, v. T. McDonough, who exch. (21 June).

Ceylon Regt. J. F. Field to be 2d-lieut. by purch., v. Hope app. to 89th F. (28 June).

Lieut. H. Brown, Hon E. I. Company's service, attached to Company's depot at Chatham, to have temporary rank of lieut. in army while so employed, v. Jacob (21 June).

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

June 28. *Exporter*, Buller, from Bengal 20th Jan., and Mauritius; off Weymouth.—July 1. *Cornwall*, YOUNGHUBAND, from Bengal 24th Feb.; at Gravesend.—2. *Sarah*, Miller, from Bombay 14th Jan., and Cape of Good Hope 29th March; at Deal.—3. *France*, Heard, from Bengal 4th Feb.; at Liverpool.—4. *Juliana*, Innes, from Bengal 9th Feb.; at Gravesend.—7. *Wellington*, Evans, from Madras 8th March; at Gravesend.—8. *Mary Ann*, Spottiswood, from Singapore 8th March; at Deal.—18. *Providence*, Ardlie, from Bengal, Madras, Mauritius, and Cape of Good Hope; at Portsmouth.—19. *Mountstuart Elphinstone*, Henning, from Bombay 27th Feb., and Ceylon 18th March—also H.M.S. *Roadicea*, Wilson, from Madras and Ceylon; both at Portsmouth.—2. *Medora*, Clendon, from Batavia 25th Feb.; at Deal.—21. *Queen Charlotte*, Maugham, from N.S. Wales 7th March; at Gravesend—also *Ganges*, Lloyd, from Bengal 8th Feb.; and *Madras* 7th March; off Dover.—23. *Hibberts*, Theaker, from Bombay; and *Lady Kennaway*, Surflen, from Bengal, Ceylon, and Mauritius; both at Gravesend.—24. *Norfolk*, Greig, from Bombay 21st Feb., and Cape of Good Hope 30th April—also *Dunvegan Castle*, Flinn, from the Mauritius, &c.; both off Portsmouth.—26. *Dunira*, Hamilton, and *Lady Melville*, Clifford, both from China; off the Isle of Wight.—28. *Asia*, Balderston, from Bengal 8th March; off Portsmouth.

Departures.

June 27.—*John Hayes*, Worthington, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—29. *Larkins*, Campbell, for China; and *Recovery*, Chapman, for Bombay; both from Portsmouth.—July 2. *Lord Melville*, Brown, for Bengal; *Mulgrave*, Turner, for Cape of Good Hope; and *Mary*, Laird, for ditto; all from Deal.—3. *Carnarvon*, Winspear, for Bengal; and *Barbara*, Pearson, for the Cape of Good Hope; both from Deal.—4. *Jane*, Jamieson, for Madras and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—5. *Corn Brea Castle*, Davey, for Bengal; from Portsmouth.—also, *Elphinstone*, Atkinson, for Madras and Bengal; *Esperance*, Buckham, for Rio, Cape, and Bengal; and *Achilles*, Henderson, for Cape of Good Hope; all from Deal.—6. *Neptune*, Cumberland, for Bombay and Bengal; from Deal.—also *Ripley*, Hesse, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—7. *Britannia*, Ferris, for Bombay; from Deal.—8. H.M.S. *Herald*, for Madras; from Plymouth.—10. *Hind*, Rodger, for N.S. Wales and V.D. Land; from Greenock.—11. *Burrell*, Metcalfe, for Batavia and Singapore; and *Husaren*, Gibson, for Cape of Good Hope; both from Deal.—also *Frederick*, Legge, for N.S. Wales; from Portsmouth.—12. *Nereus*, M'Farlane, for N.S. Wales; from Liverpool.—14. *Mary Ann*, Boucaut, for Cape of Good Hope and Bengal; from Portsmouth.—also *Cartha*, Lindsay, for Bengal; from Greenock.—15. *Barretto*, Jun., Shannon, for Bengal; and *Arethusa*, Hamilton, for Batavia and Singapore; both from Deal.—16. *Catherine*, Mackintosh, for Bengal; from Portsmouth.—also *Keruevel*, Armstrong, for Cape of Good Hope; from Deal.—17. *Turners*, Leader, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—20. *Eliza*, Leary, for N.S. Wales; from Cove of Cork.—21. *Comet*, Fraser, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—22. *Ganges*, Boulbee, for Bengal; and *Sovereign*, Mackellar, for V.D. Land (with convicts); both from Deal.—also *Nandi*, Ramsay, for Bengal; and *Eagle*, Batty, for Cape of Good Hope; both from Liverpool.—24. *Upton Castle*, Wildridge, for Bombay; and *Caroline*, Hare, for V.D. Land; both from Deal.—25. *Tyne*, Cotgrave, for Bombay; from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Cornwall, from Bengal: G. Mackillop, Esq.; Mrs. Mackillop; 2 Masters Mackillop; Mrs. Blunt; 2 Misses and 2 Masters Blunt; Capt. J. Angelo, 3d L.C.; Mrs. Angelo; 2 Miss Angelo; Mrs. Laws; 2 Masters Ferris; Lieut. Col. Pepper, 6th N.I.; Lieut. Col. G. Knight; Brev. Capt. Johnson, artillery; Lieut. A. Conolly, 6th L.C.; Miss A. Barclay; Capt. J. Day, H.M.'s 87th regt.; Lieut. R. Harris, ditto; Ens. R. Dudley, ditto; 70 invalids; 9 servants.

Per Wellington, from Madras: Mrs. Col. Campbell; Mrs. Col. Tichborne; Mrs. Fitzpatrick; Mrs. Gamage; Mrs. Grey; Maj. Fitzpatrick; Maj. Bonner; Capt. Bailey; Capt. Campbell, H.M.'s 46th regt.; Ens. Christie; Ens. Faunce; Mr. Dumergue, civil service; 2 Masters Campbell; Masters H. Rudyard, G. S. Gamage, Jas. MacLigan, and Grey; 6 servants.

Per Juliana, from Bengal: Mrs. Col. Hampton; Capt. and Mrs. Hawes; Lieut. Bolton, H.M.'s 69th regt.; Ens. Snell, H.M. 6th do; Mr. Warren.

Per Gipey, from Bombay: Mrs. Kembal; Mrs. Palin; 2 Misses Logie; Mr. Kembal, superintending surgeon; Lieut. Kennett, 21st N.I.; Miss Kembal; Masters Kembal and Barra; 2 Masters Palin.

Per Exporter, from Bengal: Capt. Philbbs, H.M.'s 88th regt.; Ens. Canney, H.M.'s 88th ditto; Mr. Charters, deputy adj. com. gen.

Per Mountstuart Elphinstone, from Bombay; Mr. and Mrs. Elphinstone; Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins; Colonel Kennedy, C.B.; Mrs. Willoughby; Capt. W. Gordon, Madras estab.; Capt. Anderson, H.C.'s marine; Mrs. MacLeod; Dr. and Mrs. Bell; Capt. MacLean, 20th regt.; Capt. Mackenzie, 2d Queen's regt.; 14 children; 122 men, women, and children, belonging to H.M.'s and H.C.'s troops.

Per Providence, from Madras: Mrs. Osborn; Mrs. Cassin; Mrs. Leveck; Maj. Osborn; Capt. Bell; Dr. Gillespie; Dr. Hewitt; Mr. Leveck; Mr. Edwards; 2 Masters Osborn; 2 Masters Leveck; Misses Osborn, Leveck, and Cassin; Masters Cox, Cassin, and Schugroesse; 2 servants.

Per Medora, from Batavia: Mrs. Clendon; Mrs. G. Livett; 2 Misses Cattenburgh; Mr. Keutlins; Mr. Stephenson; 2 Misses Harris; Miss Slater; Master J. Slater.

Per Lady Kennaway, from Ceylon: Lady Gifford and 3 children; Miss Pennell; Mr. Wright, civil service; Dr. Armstrong, Ceylon regt.; Lieut. Young, H.M.'s 83d regt.—From the Mauritius: Mr. and Mrs. Cooper; Miss Beat; Miss M'Muller; 73 invalids, H.M.'s 83d regt.; 3 women; 10 children.

Per H.M.S. Roadicea, from Ceylon, &c.: Capt. Williams, R.N.; Lieut. Walcott, R.N.; Capt. Cumberland, late of H.M.'s 55th regt.; Ens. Magra, late of H.M.'s 41st ditto.

Per Dunira, from China, &c.: Mr. G. Hamilton, from Bengal; Mr. Josh. Cole, from St. Helena; Mrs. Cole and 4 children; Mr. R. Leech and son.

Per Lady Melville, from China: Capt. Bacon, Bengal estab.; Major and Mrs. Stewart; Masters H. Stewart and G. Stewart; Miss M. C. M. Stewart (born at sea 24 May); C. B. Young, Esq.; 1 servant.

Per Ganges, from Bengal: Mrs. Gen. Gregor; Mrs. Sewell; Capt. Hilton, H.M.'s 16th Lancers; Capt. Elliott, H.M.'s 87th regt.; Lieut. Storey, ditto; J. A. Pringle, Esq., civil service; Lieut. McGregor, H.C.'s artillery; Miss Pringle; Master Hilton; Master Rich; 2 Misses Sewell; Mr. Dent.—(Capt. Sullivan, H.M.'s 30th regt., died at sea.)

Per Asia, from Bengal: Mrs. L. Magniac; Mrs. Wm. Bignell; Mrs. Waller; Mrs. Laton; Miss Durham; Lane Magniac, Esq., Bengal C.S.; J. Hunter, Esq., ditto, ditto; Dr. S. Durham, Bengal estab.; Capt. E. Garston, H.C.'s Engineers; Capt. S. Sherlock, H.M.'s 87th Foot; Ens. C. Urquhart, ditto, ditto; Alex. Lamb, Esq.; Mr. W. Turner; Misses E. Magniac, M. Magniac, Balderno, and H. Waller; Masters F. Magniac, T. Balderno, K. Waller, R. Waller, and C. T. F. Hunter; servants; charter-party passengers, &c.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per Neptune, for Bombay; Sir John Malcolm, new Governor of Bombay; and suite.

Per

Per *H.M.S. Herald*, for Madras: S. R. Lushington, Esq., new Governor of Madras; and suite.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- July 8. At Cross Bush, Arundel, the lady of Capt. H. Holmes, late of Madras, of a daughter.
9. In Sloane Street, the lady of Capt. D. R. Newall, *H.C.'s* ship *Seely Castle*, of a son.
13. In York Terrace, the lady of Charles A. Saunders, Esq., of a daughter.
15. At Brentford Butts, the lady of Capt. T. M. Claridge, of the Madras army, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- June 25. At Carnegie Park, Renfrewshire, John Spence, Esq., of Great King Street, Edinburgh, to Charlotte Dick, daughter of the late Jas. Carnegie, Esq., of Prince of Wales Island.
30. At Ryton, Durham, Capt. F. Johnston, 83d regt. of infantry, to Mary, eldest daughter of R. Downing, Esq., of Ryton and Newcastle, Northumberland.
July 2. At Whinfield, Kinross shire, Jas. Beveridge, Esq., surgeon, of the *H.C.'s* ship *Thomas Coutts*, to Ann, youngest daughter of Jas. Stedman, Esq., of Whinfield.
3. At the district church of All Souls, Major H. Dundas, late of the K. R. I. Hussars, to Annie Maria, second daughter;—and Sir Henry Willock, K.L.S., late his Majesty's Charge d'Affaires at the Court of Persia, to Eliza, fourth daughter, of the late S. Davis, Esq., of Portland-place.
5. At Lynton, Capt. T. Ritherdon, of the Hon. E.I. Company's Military College, to Amelia, second daughter of the Rev. G. Sloper, Rector

of West Woodhay, Berks, and grand-daughter of the late Gen. Sir R. Sloper, K.C.B.
12. At St. Marylebone Church, Capt. Thomas, 48th Bengal N.I., to Miss D. G. Shadwell.
24. At Southampton, T. S. Warner, Esq., of the Hon. E.I. Company's service, to Henrietta, third daughter of the late Capt. Hennessy, *H.M.'s* 07th Foot.

DEATHS.

- April 30. On board the *Lady Kennaway*, on the passage home, Sir Harding Gifford, chief justice of Ceylon.
June 13. At Dundee, John M'Donald, Esq., formerly of Calcutta.
21. In Henrietta Street, Brunswick Square, Mrs. E. M. Boardman, wife of Colonel Boardman, of the Hon. E.I. Company's service.
26. At Bath, Eliza Matilda, widow of the late Lieut. Col. Richardson, of the Hon. E.I. Company's service.
29. In Woburn Place, Chas. Bentley, Esq., formerly a member of the Council of Fort William.
— At Ashburton, Devon, Lieut. Col. C. T. Higgins, of the Hon. E.I. Company's service, Bengal establishment.
July 3. At Clapham, Edward Parry, Esq., of Gower Street, Bedford Square, one of the Directors of the East India Company, in his 77th year.
— At Westhaven, Capt. J. M. Sim, of the Hon. E.I. Company's service, eldest son of the Rev. D. Sim, late minister of Barry.
14. At Hallside, Scotland, Mrs. J. M. Bruce, daughter of James Bruce, Esq., of Kinnaid, author of "Travels to discover the Source of the Nile," and wife of John Jardine, Esq., advocate.
Late. At sea, on board the *Lady Kennaway*, on the passage to England, Capt. Orr, *H.M.'s* 97th regt.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

By information from Bassein dated 22d January, it appears that the Taluins had taken Rangoon, and that the governor had fled to Chuyagree, about four miles off.

Great mercantile distress, it is said, exists at Calcutta; and that some houses have stopped payment. The new jury act

had come into operation, and several natives had been summoned for the first time as jurors.

Accounts from Batavia, dated 10th March, state that the Dutch troops had obtained some petty advantages over the insurgents.

Supplement to Asiatic Intelligence.

CALCUTTA papers to the end of February have reached us at the moment when the last pages were going to press. We have only time, therefore, for a hasty analysis of their contents.

Treaty with Siam.—The *Government Gazette* contains an authentic copy of the treaty with Siam, which has been ratified by the Supreme Government. It will be seen from the following condensed abstract of this important document how erroneous were the copies hitherto published.

The first article stipulates that mutual friendship and good understanding shall subsist between the two powers; that neither shall attack the territories of the other, &c.

The second article provides that if the subjects of either party shall commit outrages on those of the other, the latter shall

not revenge it, but complain to the government of the offending individuals, which shall punish them; that if in either country an army or fleet be prepared, the government shall declare its object to the other, if it be required.

Article the third stipulates that differences respecting boundaries shall be adjusted in an amicable manner, by officers on both sides, who shall examine and settle the limits.

Article the fourth provides that the subjects of either party residing in the territories of the other shall not be taken away without the consent of the state wherein they reside, which, upon application, may deliver the parties or not.

The fifth article engages that each party shall give commercial facilities to the merchants of the other; English merchants,

vessels,

vessels, &c. to have traffic with any Siamese country; the Siamese to aid and protect them and permit them to buy and sell; and *vice versa*, the English are to give equal accommodations to the Siamese. The subjects of each party are to comply with the customs and conform to the laws of the country they visit.

Article sixth stipulates that the merchants and traders of either country shall pay the duties upon commerce, according to the custom of the country on either side, and shall be allowed to buy and sell without the intervention of other persons. Complaints to be examined and settled by the officers and governors on either side, according to the laws of the place in which the matter of complaint shall occur: "If a Siamese or English merchant buy or sell, without ascertaining whether the seller or buyer be of a bad or good character, and if he meet with a bad man, who takes the property and absconds, the rulers and officers must make search and produce the person of the absconder, and investigate the matter with sincerity. If the party possess property, he can be made to pay; but if not, or if he cannot be apprehended, it will be the merchant's own fault."

Article the seventh provides that merchants desirous of building godowns or houses, or of hiring shops, &c. in either country, may be denied liberty to stay: if he be allowed to stay, he shall land and take up his residence agreeably to terms mutually agreed upon, and the rulers of the country shall assist him and prevent him from being oppressed: such individual may leave the country with his property on board any vessel.

Article the eighth engages that the contracting parties shall render mutual aid to each other's subjects in case of wreck or marine injury: the property saved in case of wreck to be restored to the owner or to his heir.

Article ninth. "Merchants, subject to the English, desiring to trade in any Siamese country, with which it has not been the custom to have trade and intercourse, must first inquire of the governor of the country. Should any country have no merchandize, the governor shall inform the ship that has come to trade that there is none. Should any country have merchandize sufficient for a ship, the governor shall allow her to trade."

The tenth article stipulates that there shall be unrestricted trade between Penang, Malacca and Singapore, and the Siamese provinces (by sea, probably); Asiatic merchants of the English countries, not being Burmese, Peguers, or descendants of Europeans, shall be allowed to trade freely overland, and by means of rivers: such merchants may enter and trade with the Siamese dominions from Mergui, Tavoy, Tenasserim, and Yé, overland and by

water, upon the English furnishing them with proper certificates. But merchants are forbidden to bring opium into Siam, where it is positively contraband, and will be seized and destroyed.

Article the eleventh engages, that letters from individuals shall not be opened in either country, but by the persons to whom they are addressed.

Article the twelfth stipulates, that Siam shall not obstruct commerce in Tringanu and Colantan, and that the English shall not attack these states.

By the thirteenth article, Quedah is to remain in possession of the Siamese, who are "to take proper care of it and the people;" the people of Penang may trade with Quedah as heretofore; no duty to be levied on stock and provisions there; the Siamese shall not farm the mouths of rivers in Quedah, but shall levy fair and proper import and export duties; it is also stipulated that the servants and family of the late governor of Quedah shall be released by the Siamese; that the English shall not attack Quedah, nor suffer the former governor to disturb it, or any other territory of Siam; that the English shall not suffer the late governor of Quedah to reside in Penang, Perak, Salengore, or any Burmese country, otherwise the Siamese may levy an export duty on rice in Quedah.

The last article stipulates the independence of the state of Perak.

The treaty was executed in the presence of Prince Krom Muan Soren Tuiraksa, in the city of the sacred and great kingdom of Siam-yoo-tha-yü (Bangkok), June 20, 1826.

Appended to the treaty is the following agreement, framed by the ministers and Capt. Burney.

Article 1st.—Vessels, belonging to the subjects of the English Government, whether Europeans or Asiatics, desiring to trade at Bangkok, must conform to the established laws of Siam in every particular. Merchants coming to Bangkok, are prohibited from purchasing paddy or rice, for the purpose of exporting the same as merchandize, and, if they import fire-arms, shot, or gunpowder, they are prohibited from selling them to any party, but to the government. Should the Government not require such fire-arms, &c. the merchants must re-export the whole of them. With exception to such warlike stores, and paddy and rice, merchants, subjects of the English, and merchants at Bangkok, may buy and sell without the intervention of any other person, and with freedom and facility. Merchants, coming to trade, shall pay at once the whole of the duties and charges consolidated, according to the breadth of the vessel. If the vessel bring an import cargo, she shall be charged 1,700 ticals for each Siamese fathom in breadth; if the vessel bring no import cargo,

ge, 1,500 ticals. No import, export, or other duty shall be levied upon the buyers or sellers, from or to English subjects.

Article 2d.—Merchant vessels, the property of English subjects, arriving off the bar, must first anchor and stop there, and the commander of the vessel must dispatch a person, with an account of the cargo, and a return of the people, guns, shot, and powder, on board the vessel, for the information of the governor, at the mouth of the river; who will send a pilot and interpreter, to convey the established Regulations to the commander of the vessel. Upon the pilot bringing the vessel over the bar, she must anchor and stop below the chokey, which the interpreter will point out.

Article 3d.—The proper officers will go on board the vessel, and examine her thoroughly, and after the guns, shot, and powder, have been removed and deposited at Paknam (port at the mouth of the Menam) the Governor of Paknam will permit the vessel to pass to Bangkok.

Article 4th.—Upon the vessel's arriving at Bangkok, the officers of the customs will go on board and examine her, open the hold, and take an account of whatever cargo may be on board, and after the breadth of the vessel has been measured and ascertained, the merchants will be allowed to buy and sell according to the first article of this agreement. Should a vessel, upon receiving an export cargo, find that she cannot cross the bar with the whole, and that she must hire cargo-boats to take down a portion of the cargo, the officers of the customs and chokeys shall not charge any further duty upon such cargo-boats.

Article 5th.—Whenever a vessel or cargo-boat completes her lading, the commander of the vessel must go and ask Chao Phya Phra Khlang for a port-clearance, and if there be no cause for detention, Chao Phya Phra Khlang shall deliver the port-clearance without delay. When the vessel, upon her departure, arrives at Paknam, she must anchor and stop at the usual chokey, and after the proper officers have gone on board, and examined her, the vessel may receive her guns, shot and powder, and take her departure.

Article 6th.—If merchants, of every class, do not observe the articles of this treaty, and oppress the inhabitants of this country, become thieves or bad men, kill men, speak offensively of, or treat disrespectfully, any great or subordinate officers of the country, and the case become important in any way whatever, the proper officers shall take jurisdiction of it and punish the offender. If the offence be homicide, and the officers, upon investigation, see that it proceeded from evil intention, they shall punish with death. If it be any other offence, and the party be

the commander or officer of a vessel, or a merchant, he shall be fined; if he be of a lower rank, he shall be whipped or imprisoned, according to the established laws of Siam. The Governor of Bengal will prohibit English subjects, desiring to come and trade at Bangkok, from speaking disrespectfully or offensively to or of the great officers in Siam. If any person at Bangkok oppress any English subjects, he shall be punished according to his offence in the same manner.

The Editor of the *Gazette* makes the following comments upon the mission of Capt. Burney:

The reports of the late mission to Siam, hitherto submitted to the public, have been calculated to convey an inaccurate impression of its objects and results. The mission, as far as we have been able to ascertain, was neither of a political nor commercial, but of a complimentary character, and was intended to congratulate the present monarch, upon his recent accession to the throne. It seemed probable, that the more intimate knowledge of the government of Siam, consequent upon the visit of the envoy, might afford opportunities to place the relations of the two states upon the footing of mutual interest and friendship; and Capt. Burney, the envoy, was therefore, we believe, instructed to avail himself of their occurrence, in order to adjust, as far as might be practicable without offence to the Siamese court, sundry points of discussion between it and the Penang authorities, and above all, to pave the way for an improved commercial intercourse between the Siamese kingdom and the whole of British India. As an object of less general magnitude, though equally important to the interests of humanity, the Envoy was directed to effect the restoration of the Burman captives to their native homes, who had been kidnapped, and carried off from the Tenasserim provinces, after they had become by conquest part of the British dominions. This last purpose was promptly realized, and 1,400 individuals returned to Tavoy and Mergui, from a captivity heretofore regarded as a civil death. Such of the other incidental objects of the mission were also accomplished as were found attainable by conciliatory negotiation, and the commerce of Siam was thrown open to British capital and adventure.

It will be seen from the stipulations of the treaty, how far from accurate were the versions hitherto promulgated, in which it was represented that the importation of opium was prohibited under the penalty of death; that an equally severe punishment menaced the entrance of the descendants of Europeans into the territories of Siam; and that no European was to trade
license

with the country, without producing a license to that effect, or his credentials as a merchant or mariner. Although opium is an article of contraband trade, its importation is punishable only by the confiscation of the article; and although the Siamese object to the transit of European traders by land, every reasonable facility is given to their admission from sea.

Runjit Singh.—Dr. Murray, of Ludhiana, who attended upon this chieftain, as reported in a preceding page, has communicated some curious particulars respecting him. "The Maha Raja is described as a man of small stature, about fifty years of age, of a lively disposition, and shrewd and intelligent observation. In the end of December, he was residing in a small tent pitched in the centre of a garden, about a mile from Lahore. There was a small awning in front of the tent, and three sides of the garden were enclosed with red kanats: very few officers or troops were in attendance. In the afternoon the Raja generally goes out in his palankeen or tonjan for air and exercise, when he is more numerous attended, but his retinue remain considerably in the rear of the palkee, which is usually unaccompanied except by one of the Sardars, Mian Dhun Sinh, or his brother. The Raja's usual excursion is to a bungalow a short distance from his tents. In view of the latter there are always six or seven of his horses, fine-looking animals, and splendidly caparisoned. Horses seem to be the passion of his Highness; he has a large stud, which he frequently passes in review, and is familiarly acquainted with the history and qualities of every individual. Besides the ordinary levies of the country, Runjit Singh has now on foot a very respectable force, armed and disciplined after the European fashion. Two of these battalions were reviewed by his Highness in the end of December. One was composed of Sikhs, the other of Sikhs and Hindoostanees. The former were dressed in white jackets and trowsers, with yellow linen turbans, the cartouch-boxes, belts, and bayonet-scarbards were red. The accoutrements and turbans of the other battalion were similar to those of the British Sepoys. All were armed with muskets and bayonets of very respectable manufacture and in good order. The men were tall and robust, and exceedingly steady. After firing by companies and in volleys with great regularity, they formed hollow square on the two centre companies, deployed into line, and marched past in review, carrying arms when in front of the Raja, who was seated in an arm chair. The whole was under the direction of the native commandant. Each company has one subadar, one jemadar, two havildars, and two naiks; all except the latter are clad in yellow silk. The officers carry

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sabres, the havildars halberds. Each battalion has a band of drums and fifes, who played English tunes as they marched past. The Raja has also a corps of Lancers in his service, as well as a respectable train of Artillery. The chief agents in the organization of his force are two French officers, who have been some time in his service, and we learn that two more have arrived at Cabul, on their way to join the Seik army, who are relations of the officers already entertained, and have come out to India upon their invitation. Runjit is very desirous to have an interview with the Governor General, if it could be arranged so as to suit his lordship's convenience. His disorder, an affection of the liver, is not such as to incapacitate him from his public duties.

Return of the Embassy from Ava.—Mr. Craufurd and the gentlemen of the Ava embassy arrived yesterday in the *Bombay Merchant* from Amherst Town, where, we understand, Dr. Wallich remains to pursue his botanical researches. The report which has been current here that Rangoon was in possession of the Taliens is not confirmed, though the country is not yet tranquil.—[*Beng. Hurk.*, Feb. 24.

The report referred to above was derived from the information of two persons who had arrived at Bassein, on the 22d January, who reported that the Taliens had taken Rangoon and occupied Dalla and Patanow.

New Jury Act.—The sessions of Oyer and Terminer began on the 19th February, when Mr. Wynn's new jury act came into operation, and several individuals were summoned as jurors who had been hitherto excluded as incompetent.

Tour of the Governor-General.—The visit paid by Lord Amherst to Futtehpur Sikri enabled one of his lordship's suite to transmit to Calcutta the following account of this interesting place, and which appears in the *Calcutta Gov. Gazette* of February 22d. "Of the city of Futtehpur Sikri, which was built by Akber, and appears never to have been of very great extent, little now exists, except a mass of ruins, enclosed within walls equally decayed. The northern portion, formed of a series of low hills, is covered by the reliques of Akber's palace, and the Dergah, or Shrine, of Sheikh Selim Chishti, the Saint, whose prayers and surpassing piety procured the monarch the much coveted blessing of a son and successor.

"The palace of the Emperor consists of a succession of buildings, scattered over a considerable extent of ground, and presents nothing grand or striking. The different structures are all on a very small scale, and apparently little adapted to an imperial

imperial residence. Many of them, however, are of peculiar construction, and the ornamental architecture is elaborate and curious. They are especially worthy of notice, as marking an era in the arts of India, and indicating the transition about to take place from the genuine Hindu to the Indo-Persic, or Saracenic style of building. Indian architecture combines rudeness and delicacy in a peculiar manner. The edifices are built in square massive blocks, where strength depends upon the quantity of matter less than upon its disposition. Some of the roofs at Futtchpur Sikri are formed of immense slabs of stone laid, without beams, from wall to wall: others are formed of similar slabs laid aslope, and meeting in the centre as in a pitched roof. The door and window frames are all square, the buildings angular, and such columns as occur are short and ponderous; combined with this cyclopean style, if it may be so termed, there is extreme delicacy and minuteness in detail, and the walls and cornices are covered with scrolls and flowers of an almost microscopic delineation, and most complex and laborious execution. In the building immediately adjoining a wholly different style prevails, and the shrine of the Saint, with its carved arches, corridors, cupolas, and minarets, corresponds with the general character of Mohammedan architecture, as it occurs throughout Persia, whence it seems to have been imported, in full perfection, into Hindostan by the Mogul Princes, and especially Akber's predecessor Hoomayoon.

"The Dergah of Sheikh Chishti is, perhaps, the finest specimen of Mohammedan architecture in India. It is situated on the summit of a hill, from the brow of which a lofty gateway, to which a long flight of steps ascends, commands a distant view of the Taj on one side, and Bhurtpur on the other. Like all buildings of this description, it is a quadrangular enclosure, but it is much more than the usual extent, measuring about five hundred feet from wall to wall. The court within the enclosure is paved with stone—an arcaded viranda extends round three sides, whilst that opposite to the main entrance is occupied by the tombs of the family and descendants of the saint. His own tomb is a low building of white marble projecting into the centre of the square; the walls and windows of the shrine are carved with the greatest delicacy, like net-work or lace, and a screen curiously wrought with mother-o'-pearl protects the marble sarcophagus within from profane approach. The me-

mory of the Sheikh is still held in great veneration, and many persons come daily in pilgrimage to his shrine. They tie small threads or offer flowers on the tomb, making at the same time presents to the Khadims or servants of the establishment, and they anticipate that the saint's intercession will procure them health, or longevity, or children, or whatever may be the object of their desires. Hindus form a full proportion of the pilgrims, and it is a curious circumstance, that a similar superstition invests the sepulchral monuments of the Taj with imaginary sanctity, offerings of a like character, and with similar objects, being presented, especially by Hindus, at the tombs of the despot Shah Jehan, and the lovely Light of his harem."

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

- Jan. 24. At Bareilly, the lady of Dr. A. Ross, 37th regt., of a son.
 26. At Necnuch, the lady of Lieut. and Adj. Alexander, 5th Light Cavalry, of a son.
 Feb. 10. At Serampore, the wife of Mr. John Rodrigues, of a daughter.
 11. Mrs. W. W. Beck, of a son.
 — The lady of W. Anley, Esq., of a son.
 12. The lady of John Vanderberg, Esq., of a son.
 — At Chittagong, Mrs. J. C. Pritchard, of a daughter.
 14. At Chandernagore, Madame Latour, wife of Monsieur S. P. Latour, indigo planter, of a daughter.
 16. Mrs. Davidson, wife of Capt. W. B. Davidson, of the *Hammon Shaw*, of a son.
 19. Mrs. Joseph Cowley, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

- Jan. 19. At Chittagong, Mr. John Brown, to Miss C. Paul, eldest daughter of Mr. A. Paul, late head assistant in the Commercial Department in the district of Chittagong.
 Feb. 1. At Nussereabad, Lieut. F. Wheler, interp. and quart. mast. 2d Light Cavalry, to Caroline, youngest daughter of the Rev. W. Palmer, district chaplain on this establishment.
 15. At the Cathedral, A. J. Moffatt Mills, Esq., of the civil service, to Miss C. M. Martin.
 17. P. A. Lamouroux, Esq., house of Messrs. Bonnaffe and Co., to Miss J. M. Frances, eldest daughter of F. Vigmon, Esq.
 — At St. Nazareth's church, Mr. J. H. Arratoon, eldest son of the late H. Arratoon, Esq., to Catherine, only daughter of G. P. Bagram, Esq.
 23. At the Cathedral, Mr. R. S. Strickland, to Miss E. Catania.

DEATHS.

- Jan. 13. At Doobariah Factory, Zillah of Ghazepore, Mr. M. A. Harper, aged 31.
 16. At Dinapore, Mrs. E. Hind, widow of the late Assist. Commissary Hind, aged 60.
 Feb. 4. Miss M. A. D'Paiva, daughter of Mr. Clemente D'Paiva, aged 3 years.
 7. At Delhi, J. R. Buchanan, Esq., assist. surg. 17th N.I.
 13. At Dum Dum, Lieut. M. T. Colyear, of the artillery, aged 20.
 20. At Serampore, John O'Brien Tandy, Esq.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 14 August—Prompt 9 November.

Company's.—Saltpetre—Black Pepper.

Licensed.—Saltpetre—Pepper—Ginger—Cinnamon—Sago—Cassia Lignea.

For Sale 16 August—Prompt 9 November.

Licensed.—Camphor—Gum Ammoniac—Benjamin—Gum Copal—Gum Urratol—Gamboge—Horax—Tincal—Columbo Root—Senna—Bees' Wax—Sealing Wax—Shellac—Castor Oil.

For Sale 17 August—Prompt 9 November.

Licensed.—Gum Arabic—Lac Dye—Sticklac—Galls—Potash—Cochineal—Safflower—Sapan Wood.

For Sale 21 August—Prompt 9 November.

Licensed.—Elephants' Teeth—Tortoiseshell—Mother-of-Pearl Shells—Cornelians—Deer Horns—Antimony Ore—Paddy Bird Feathers—Rattans—Bamboo Blinds—Floor Mats—Marble Screens

For Sale 3 September—Prompt 30 November.
Tea.—Bohea, 1,100,000 lb.; Congou, Campoi, Pekoe, and Souchong, 5,200,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson-Skin, 1,150,000 lb.; Hyson, 250,000 lb.—Total, including Private-Trade, 7,700,000 lb.

For Sale 11 September—Prompt 7 December.

Company's.—Bengal, Coast, and Surat Piece Goods.

CARGOES of EAST-INDIA COMPANY'S SHIPS lately arrived.

CARGOES of the *Dunira* and *Lady Melville*, from China; the *Cornwall*, *Lord Lyndoch*, and *Julliana*, from Bengal; and the *Wellington*, from Madras.

Company's.—Tea—Sugar—Indigo—Cotton—Piece Goods.

Private-Trade and Privilege.—Tea—Raw Silk—Tortoiseshell—Paper—Wine.

LIST of SHIPS trading to INDIA and Eastward of the CAPE of GOOD HOPE.

Destination.	Appointed to sail.	Ships' Name.	Owners or Consignees.	Captains.	Where loading.	Reference for Freight or Passage.
Madras and Penang	1827. Aug. 5	<i>Royal Charlotte</i>	261 Robert Dudman	Robert Dudman	W. I. Docks	Barber, Neate, & Co., Clement's-lane.
	10	<i>Hops</i>	465 John T. E. Flint	Thomas Hill	E. I. Docks	Charles Moss, Mark-lane.
	10	<i>Claudine</i>	460 Joseph L. Heathorn	Walter Raymond	W. I. Docks	Joseph L. Heathorn, Birchlin-lane.
	10	<i>Wellington</i>	434 Gustavus Evans	Gustavus Evans	City Canal	Joseph L. Heathorn.
Madras and Bengal	Sept. 5	<i>Copernicus</i>	323 William Tindell	James Boland	W. I. Docks	John Lyncey, jun. Birchlin-lane.
	15	<i>La Belle Alliance</i>	676 Hugh Hunter	Hugh Hunter	W. I. Docks	Chalmers & Guthrie, & J. Horsley & Co.
	15	<i>Cecrops</i>	323 Joseph Fletcher	William Tullis	W. I. Docks	John Masson, Lime-street Square
	15	<i>Georgiana</i>	426 Joseph Horsley and Co.	William Haylett	W. I. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co., Billiter-sq.
Bengal	1	<i>York</i>	478 Samuel Moates	H. R. Wilkinson	City Canal	Buckles and Co. Mark-lane.
	8	<i>Anna Robertson</i>	550 James Irvine	James Irvine	City Canal	Edm. Read, Riche's-court, Lime-str.
	5	<i>Roberts</i>	723 Cockerill and Co.	Joseph Cockerill	E. I. Docks	W. Abercrombie, Birchlin-lane.
	—	<i>Zenobia</i>	622 Rickards, Macintosh & Co.	Joseph Douglas	Tomlin and Man.	Threadneedle-st.
Bengal	—	<i>Palmyra</i>	602 Buckles and Co.	John Lamb	City Canal	Buckles and Co.
	5	<i>Orient</i>	568 Thomas White	Thomas White	E. I. Docks	J. Pirie & Co., Freeman's-st., Cornhill.
	10	<i>Arcturus</i>	300 John Gavin	John Wilson	W. I. Docks	W. Redhead, jun., Lime-street.
	15	<i>Lady Holland</i>	445 George Joak	Samuel Snell	W. I. Docks	John Lyncey, jun.
Bombay	20	<i>Thames</i>	365 John Blackett	—	W. I. Docks	Robt. Thornhill, Nicholas-lane.
	25	<i>Tyne</i>	463 Webb and Stuart	R. B. Cotgrave	Portsmouth	Tomlin and Man.
	15	<i>Lady Feversham</i>	550 John Barry	Stephen Elerby	W. I. Docks	John Lyncey, jun.
	15	<i>Manchester Ed- phinstone</i>	600 Joseph L. Heathorn	Alex. Hemming	W. I. Docks	Joseph L. Heathorn.
Ceylon Mauritius & Ceylon	Oct. 1	<i>Serapy</i>	443 James Greig	Charles Kemp	Blackwall	Gledastanes, Drysdale, & Co., White-
	1	<i>Houghty</i>	459 Buckles and Co.	Peter J. Reeves	W. I. Docks	Buckles and Co. [non-court, Cornhill.
	Aug. —	<i>Alexander</i>	447 George Joak	Wm. Richardson	W. I. Docks	John Lyncey, jun.
	—	<i>Biora</i>	176 Thos. Miln, of Batavia	Thos. A. Laming	Lon. Docks	Joseph Horsley and Co.
Batavia	Sept. 1	<i>Heros</i>	329 Thomions and West	James Sweet	W. I. Docks	Edmund Read.
	10	<i>Wilhelmina</i>	304 Thomions and West	John Jorgenson	W. I. Docks	Edmund Read.
	10	<i>Reaper</i>	288 Robert Ceely	William Broad	City Canal	John S. Brimley, Birchlin-lane.
	20	<i>Mary Ann</i>	279 Huddart and Co.	W. Spottiswoode	E. I. Docks	J. Pirie and Co.
Bat., Sing., Manila Penang & Singapore	20	<i>Lallin Rookh</i>	350 Hugh Stewart	Hugh Stewart	W. I. Docks	Arnold & Woollett, and W. Redhead,
	31	<i>Woodlark</i>	250 Buckles and Co.	Robert Brash	Lon. Docks	Buckles and Co.
	1	<i>Courier</i>	250 John Hooke	John F. Steele	Lon. Docks	John Cramond, Philip-pot-lane.
	4	<i>George Home</i>	447 B. Powis	Matthew Procter	Lon. Docks	John Pirie and Co.
P. D. Land & N. S. Wales	—	<i>Ionis</i>	226 R. C. Buck	Charles Buck	Lon. Docks	Charles Dood, East-India Chambers.
	10	<i>Cape Packet</i>	230 Benj. Tho. Crichton	Francis Dickson	Lon. Docks	John Blumer, Church-row.
	31	<i>Alexander Henry</i>	300 Lewis Jacob	James Muiridge	Lon. Docks	Beaton and Co., George-yard.
	—					1st August 1827.

PRICE CURRENT, July 26.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.								Indigo, Blue and Violet lb				£. s. d.				£. s. d.			
		£. s. d.	£. s. d.			£. s. d.	£. s. d.												
Coffee, Java	cwt	2 2 0	— 2 12 0					—	Purple and Violet	0 13 0	—	0 13 6							
— Cheribon		1 18 0	— 2 3 0					—	Extra fine Violet	0 12 3	—	0 12 9							
— Sumatra								—	Violet	0 11 9	—	0 12 0							
— Bourbon								—	Violet and Copper	0 10 0	—	0 11 6							
— Mocha								—	Low and bad Cude	0 9 3	—	0 11 3							
Cotton, Surat	lb	3 0 0	— 6 0 0					—	Madras	0 10 0	—	0 11 0							
— Madras		0 0 4	— 0 0 5					—	Do. mid. ord. and bad	0 9 0	—	0 9 9							
— Bourbon		0 0 4	— 0 0 6					—	Rice, Bengal White	0 7 6	—	0 10 6							
— Bourbon		0 0 7	— 0 0 10					—	Patna	0 2 0	—	0 4 0							
Drugs & for Dyeing								—	Sago	0 8 0	—	0 9 0							
— Aloes, Epatica	cwt	16 0 0	— 21 0 0					—	Saltpetre	0 4 6	—	0 7 6							
— Anniseeds, Star		5 5 0	— 5 10 0					—	Novi	0 13 0	—	0 16 0							
— Borax, Refined		2 4 0	— 2 6 0					—	Ditto White	0 18 0	—	1 1 0							
— Unrefined, or Tincal		2 2 0						—	China	1 0 0	—	7 10 0							
— Camphire		8 15 0						—	Spices, Cinnamon	0 15 0	—	1 10 0							
— Cardamoms, Malabar	lb							—	Cloves	1 4 0	—	1 5 0							
— Ceylon		0 1 4	— 0 1 6					—	Mace	0 4 3	—	0 6 9							
— Cassia Buds	cwt	6 0 0	— 6 15 0					—	Nutmegs	0 2 6	—	0 3 0							
— Lignea		5 5 0	— 6 0 0					—	Ginger	0 4 6	—	0 6 0							
— Castor Oil	lb	0 0 6	— 0 1 6					—	Pepper, Black	0 3 8	—	0 4 3							
— Dragon's Blood		5 0 0	— 21 0 0					—	— White	1 0 0	—	0 0 4							
— Gum Ammoniac, lump		3 0 0	— 5 0 0					—	Sugar, Bengal	0 0 3	—	0 0 2							
— Arabic		1 5 0	— 3 10 0					—	Siam and China	0 1 2	—	0 2 0							
— Assafoetida		2 0 0	— 50 0 0					—	Mauritius	1 16 0	—	2 2 0							
— Benjamin		3 0 0	— 8 0 0					—	— Siam and China	1 13 0	—	2 3 0							
— Animi		3 0 0	— 30 0 0					—	— Mauritius	1 5 0	—	1 16 0							
— Gambogium		26 0 0	— 8 0 0					—	— Gumpowder	0 3 6	—	0 3 11							
— Myrrh		3 0 0	— 5 0 0					—	Tortoiseshell	1 4 0	—	2 10 0							
— Oilbanum		3 10 0	— 16 0 0					—	Wood, Sanders Red	10 0 0	—	10 10 0							
— Kino		11 0 0	— 0 1 6					—											
— Lac Lake	lb	0 1 0	— 0 1 6					—											
— Dye		0 4 0						—											
— Shell	cwt	2 10 0	— 5 0 0					—											
— Stick		2 0 0	— 3 0 0					—											
— Musk, China	oz	0 10 0	— 0 15 0					—											
— Oil, Cassia		0 0 5	— 0 10 0					—											
— Cinnamon		0 9 0	— 0 1 6					—											
— Cloves	lb	0 1 3	— 0 0 3					—											
— Mace		0 0 2	— 0 3 0					—											
— Nutmegs		0 2 9	— 0 3 0					—											
— Opium		0 1 6	— 0 6 6					—											
— Rhubarb		3 5 0	— 0 2 0					—											
— Sal Ammoniac	cwt	0 0 9	— 1 16 0					—											
— Sena	lb	0 0 9	— 1 10 0					—											
— Turmeric, Java	cwt	1 10 0	— 2 2 0					—											
— Bengal		1 8 0	— 2 2 0					—											
— China		1 16 0	— 4 0 0					—											
— Galls, in Sorts		4 0 0	— 4 10 0					—											
— Blue		4 0 0						—											

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

Oil, Southern	ton	30 0 0																	
— Sperm		70 0 0																	
— Head Matter		75 0 0																	
— Wool	lb	0 2 0	— 0 5 0																
— Wood, Blue Gum	ton	0 7 10	— 0 8 10																
— Cedar		0 0 4	— 0 0 5																

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS, from June 26 to July 25.

June.	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	N. 4 Pr. Ct. Ann.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.			
26	206	85 $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	—	92 $\frac{1}{8}$	91 $\frac{1}{8}$	2	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{8}$	87 89p	54 56p	
27	205 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	—	92	91 $\frac{1}{8}$	2	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{8}$	89p	55 57p	
28	206 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	—	92 $\frac{1}{4}$	92 $\frac{1}{4}$	—	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{8}$	88 89p	53 56p	
29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
30	206 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	—	92 $\frac{1}{8}$	92 $\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	86 88p	53 55p	
July													
2	206 $\frac{3}{4}$	85 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	—	—	92	$\frac{1}{4}$	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{8}$	—	54 56p	
3	207 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	—	—	92	$\frac{1}{4}$	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{8}$	—	55 56p	
4	208 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6	—	—	92	$\frac{3}{8}$	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{5}{8}$	85 86p	55 56p	
5	210	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	—	—	93	$\frac{3}{8}$	—	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	85 87p	55 57p	
6	209 10	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	7 $\frac{3}{8}$	86 87	—	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	4 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	11	20 $\frac{1}{2}$	251 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 89p	57 59p	
7	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	87	$\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	93 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	20	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	250 $\frac{1}{2}$	89 90p	59 61p
8	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	93 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	90 92p	60 62p	
9	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	—	93 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 100 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	—	—	84 88p	53 55p	
10	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	252 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 87p	50 53p	
11	209 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	100	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	252 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 87p	53 55p	
12	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	252 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 87p	50 53p	
13	209 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	252 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 87p	53 55p	
14	210	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	252 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 88p	54 58p
16	210	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	93	$\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	252 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 87p	54 56p
17	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	251 $\frac{1}{2}$	87 88p	55 57p	
18	—	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	88 90p	56 58p
19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	252	89 90p	56 58p	
21	—	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	85 $\frac{5}{8}$	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	252 $\frac{1}{2}$	88 89p	56 58p
23	210	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	89p	56 57p	
24	210 $\frac{1}{2}$	86 $\frac{3}{4}$	7	86 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	93 $\frac{3}{8}$	100 $\frac{1}{2}$	1	19 $\frac{1}{2}$	20	88 89p	56 58p
25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

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THE ASIATIC JOURNAL

FOR
SEPTEMBER, 1827.

Original Communications,

&c. &c. &c.

SUTTEES.

A VOLUME of official papers respecting the self-immolation of Hindoo widows, laid before Parliament during the late session, has just issued from the press. With this fresh supply of evidence, we propose to re-consider this very interesting though painful subject.

As we shall be unavoidably led into details of some length, we do not think it expedient to confine ourselves to the limits which a single number of this journal can afford to one topic.

Before we proceed to the argumentative matter in the volume, we shall exhibit an abstract of the number of suttees, compiled from the official returns, in the year 1824, comparing it with the abstract for the year 1823 given in the papers presented during the session of 1825.

SUTTEES UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF FORT WILLIAM.

	1823.	1824.
Burdwan	45	56
Hooghly.....	81	91
Jessore	14	30
Jungle Mehals	27	16
Midnapore.....	15	22
Nuddeah	59	73
Suburbs of Calcutta	46	31
Twenty-four Pergunnahs including Baraset	22	26
Total Calcutta division.....	309	348
Cuttack, Khoordah, and Balashore.....	31	25
Dacca Division	40	40
Moorshedabad do	13	14
Patna do.	49	42
Bareilly do.	12	10
Benares do.	121	93
	575	572

SUTTEES UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF FORT ST. GEORGE.

No returns.

SUTTEES UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF BOMBAY.

No regular returns, except from the southern Concan, in which the number of suttees in 1825 was thirty-two. The return for 1824 is wanting; but the annual average for the preceding five years is forty-eight.

The following is a comparative statement of the ages of the victims in 1824.

	Under 20 Years.	Between 20 and 40 Years.	Between 40 and 60 Years.	Above 60 Years.	Total.
Brahmin caste	11	103	102	35	251
Other castes	13	115	132	61	321
	<hr/> 24	<hr/> 218	<hr/> 234	<hr/> 96	<hr/> 572

Comparing this list with that for the preceding year, which is given in our 20th vol., p. 653, one reflection occurs which is worthy of notice, namely, that the suttees of the Brahmin caste have greatly increased in comparison with those in other castes, especially amongst the younger women. When it is remembered that the brahminees are prohibited from the rite of *anoomarana*, or post-cremation (burning with a portion of the husband's furniture, &c.), which other castes may do after the lapse of years, the large proportion of Brahmin suttees is remarkable.

In the Calcutta division, where, unfortunately the bulk of the number takes place, the victims consisted of a greater proportion of aged women than in the year 1823.

It is lamentable to find that of the twenty-four young creatures who underwent this cruel rite, one was aged thirteen, another eleven, and another only nine.* In all these cases, the suttees were decidedly illegal. The last especially: the widow was a brahmince, and she burnt, in the Goruckpore zillah (Benares), upon receiving intelligence of her husband's death, with his turban and other clothes. Two persons, who appeared to have assisted at this murder, were committed to take their trial at the sessions.

Of aged suttees there are many examples in the returns: several having burned who were eighty and upwards, some aged ninety, and one at the great age of ninety-five. Surely these poor creatures ought to have been assumed to be irrational, and their anticipation of an event which must be so near, prevented on that ground.

The classes, to which the husbands of the suttees belonged, were various, comprehending all degrees, from the zemindar and pundit to the beggar, and including also native government officers; as well as persons of all circumstances, from those in possession of ample means of subsistence to individuals "in very miserable circumstances" (p. 77): the greater part, indeed, were in humble condition.

None of the cases are very remarkable. In the case of Mohasoonderee Debeca, a brahmince, "every exertion was made to dissuade the widow from becoming a suttee, but without effect; she had been waiting for the death of her husband, who had been brought down to the bank of the river the day previous to the sacrifice. The ceremony was conducted in the usual manner, except

* There is one reported four years of age, which is an evident mistake, as she left a son aged twenty-five. Similar errors occurred in former papers, and occasioned much misrepresentation.

except that the accompaniment of tom-toms and churs was forbid, in order to enable such as might hear her cries to be released, if she made any, to afford her every assistance. No bamboos were placed over her, thus leaving her at perfect liberty to escape if nature should burst the fetters of superstition which had made her submit to the most excruciating of deaths." She was the second wife of the deceased, who was a priest, and possessed some lackeraj lands. She had one son, about eight years of age. A strong consideration which appears to have influenced her was that her mother had burnt, and the rite (she alleged) had invariably been performed by the females of her family. In the same zillah (that of Maldah) where this sacrifice occurred, another was attempted, less than a month afterwards; but in this case the intended victim had less resolution. Nature overcame every other feeling, and the woman leaped from the pile; upon which, the darogah states in his report, the relatives and persons present endeavoured to place her again upon it, and would in all probability have done so, had not the darogah himself (who was a Musulman) prevented them. It appears from the remarks of the Court of Nizamut Adawlut that the magistrate of the zillah is instituting an inquiry into the circumstances detailed in the darogah's report, with the view, we suppose, of punishing the offending persons.

It is apparent, from several statements in these papers, that many of the natives, especially of the more respectable Hindoos, are averse to witness these disgusting exhibitions, and even endeavour to prevail upon the deluded women to forego their shocking intention. In the district of Allyghur (Barcilly division) there was but one suttee in 1824, and a respectable zemindar offered the woman, who was a brahmince, sixty years of age, the widow of a beggar, money and land to renounce her purpose; "she continued obstinately bent upon her destruction, and lighting the pile, perished in the flames." In the zillah of Boolundshuher (same division) a single suttee took place, and here a similar circumstance occurred: the police officer was present, and though urged by him and several respectable Hindoo zemindars, who offered her land to accept of life (she was only thirty years of age), the deluded creature spurned the tender, and lit the pile with her own hands. She was, as well as the other, the widow of a brahmin beggar.

At Moradabad, in the same division, there was an attempt at one of these sacrifices. The kotwal delayed the ceremony until the receipt of orders from the court, and before they could arrive the woman changed her intention. The magistrate of this zillah states that the practice might, in his opinion, be put down there altogether, with the greatest ease and safety, by a simple prohibition.

In Shahabad (Patna division) three widows were dissuaded from becoming suttees, and one was prevented by the police on account of the illegality of the intended sacrifice. In this zillah a very great decrease has taken place since the last year, and of the number of suttees in 1824, several were illegal, and ought to have been prevented.

In South Bundelcund (Benares division) two suttees were prevented. In one case, a widow, whose husband had been dead for upwards of six years, determined to sacrifice herself. The thannadar forbid the ceremony, as contrary to the shasters. The widow, upon being made acquainted with the prohibition, acquiesced very readily, declaring she relinquished the intention of burning! In the other case the suttee, after ascending the pile, found her courage fail and jumped off, after being slightly burnt. She was made over to her relations, who agreed voluntarily to provide for her.

One case affords an example of pre-determined suicide. It is that of Goorjah, aged thirty, which occurred at Saharunpore, in the Bareilly division, 13th August 1824. "The suttee took place about twelve years after the death of her husband. In the month of August last, Suddasook, brother of the suttee, fell sick at Saharunpore, whither she repaired for the purpose of seeing him; during her stay at the place, her brother having died, the suttee wished to have *burnt herself with his remains*: this being contrary to the shasters, the kotwal of Saharunpore was ordered to prevent it. Ten days after this circumstance, the father-in-law of the suttee presented a petition to the court, stating that his daughter-in-law had taken nothing for ten days, and was desirous of burning with some property of her husband. The magistrate, with the pundit of the court, &c. went to the house in which the woman was, expostulated with her, and used every means to dissuade her from burning, but to no effect, as she continued urgent in her intention; and the pundit having stated that no irregularity existed in the woman's burning herself, the ceremony was permitted to take place." The court of Nizamut Adawlut consider this suttee (the only one in the district) as illegal.

There was a case (p. 83) in the Nuddeah district of the Calcutta division, wherein three wives of a deceased brahmin burned. They were of the respective ages of twenty-five, twenty-one, and eighteen. The mohurrer of the thannah in charge attempted to stay this suttee, on the ground of there being three women. "He reported the case to the magistrate, and was ordered to make strict inquiry, as it appeared likely that some of the women might be legally incapacitated; but before the receipt of the order, the relations burnt the woman in defiance of the mohurrer's remonstrances." On subsequent inquiry, the suttees were reported to be legal. With this case we would contrast another (p. 110) in which only one of two wives chose to burn; the second wife of the deceased joined his cousin in the usual engagement to take care of an infant child, a year old, whom the suttee left behind.

There is a nonsensical statement in more than one return from the Ghazee-pore zillah (Benares) of the fire communicating *spontaneously* from the suttee's cloth! This absurdity, interpolated doubtless by the native officer, ought not surely to be retained in a public document which purports to proceed from the British magistrate.

In a case of suttee (the only one) in the Rungpore district of Moorsheda-bad, the magistrate committed for trial all the parties concerned, thinking that there was a strong suspicion, corroborated by the inability or refusal of the parties to explain, that the object of the ceremony was to get rid of the widow, in order to secure some property left by the deceased to his brothers, in the event of her death.

Most of the returns are defective in respect to whether the sacrifices were by *sahamarana* (concremation) or by *anoomarana* (post-cremation), which it is extremely desirable should be shown, because, in many instances—nay, in most, the latter are illegal. Thus in the zillah of Shahabad, in which were four instances of post-cremation, three were illegal; and in Goruckpore zillah, where three occurred, two of them were illegal.

Numerous instances are observable in these returns, as in former ones, in which the sacrifice took place without the presence of a police officer; consequently (as is remarked by Mr. Harington in his minute dated 14th Sept. 1825) without its being ascertainable whether the immolation was conformably to the Hindoo law, or irregular and therefore punishable. "I shall never cease," he adds, "to regret the continuance of such a state of remediable defect

defect in our police, and of its awful influence in aggravating the evils of the suttee practice, by the tacit allowance of cruelty and murder."

When officiating as chief judge of the Nizamut Adawlut, in February 1825, Mr. Harington directed his attention to a remedy for this defect, and proposed, in a minute which appears amongst the papers now published (p. 45), a circular letter to the courts of circuit, containing a recommendation of measures for insuring a timely notice to the police of any intended suttee. This circular was opposed by three of the judges of the court, as inconsistent with the object of government, that of refraining from measures which would constructively legalize this abominable practice. In this opinion the Supremo Government coincided, observing :

The Governor-General in Council is duly sensible of the humane motives by which Mr. Harington is actuated in urging the points noticed in his minute, but being of opinion that the measures proposed for requiring the zemindars and others to give previous information of all cases of suttee, though varying in form, would in effect be substantially the same as those which government has before declined to adopt, and that they would in fact be open to nearly all the same objections, he concurs with the majority of the court in thinking it inexpedient to circulate the orders proposed by the officiating chief judge.

There are but few particulars of any interest among the Madras papers. Mr. Sinclair, an assistant magistrate in the Tanjore district, succeeded in preventing a brahminee from burning, after a long effort. She at first resisted all entreaties, and declared that she would pull out her tongue,—she would starve herself,—she was bent on the sacrifice of her life. Mr. Sinclair appears to have treated her as a lunatic, and he directed the tchisdar to lose no time in consuming the body of the deceased. The corpse was burnt and the widow survived: her caste hinders the rite of post-cremation. There seems to have been in this case a little dexterity used, which is not warranted by the regulations; and the government, from the hint given in its reply to the communication, appears to have thought so. Under these circumstances much reliance cannot be placed on the opinion of Mr. Sinclair, that the practice of suttee might be stopped by authority, and that "a proclamation against such shocking rites would be almost universally hailed with satisfaction."

A more gratifying instance of preservation is recorded in a letter from the resident of Tanjore. Rajah Tondiman died on the 4th June 1824, and as it had been customary in Tondiman's family for the wife to sacrifice herself, the first wife declared her intention of burning with the deceased rajah on this occasion. Ragonath Tondiman, however, the brother and successor of the late rajah (both of whom had conceived an abhorrence of this revolting practice), succeeded, by arguments and entreaties, in dissuading the widow from her purpose. The Governor in Council communicated to the rajah his particular approbation of this part of his conduct, which has had the effect of stimulating the humane exertions of Ragonath Tondiman; in two subsequent instances at Poodoocottah, the wives of two men of rank, who had determined to burn themselves, were persuaded through his intercession to recede from their intention. The resident states in his letter as follows :

It is gratifying to think, that though self-immolation has prevailed generally in the Tanjore family, the present rajah denounces it as a barbarous and inhuman rite; he declares that he will interdict his own wife in the most solemn manner from sacrificing herself upon his funeral pile, and that he will discourage the practice wherever his influence can have any weight; but though so decidedly against it himself, he is still of opinion that any thing like an exertion of authority, or even very active endeavours for

for its suppression, whether by European or native influence, would have the very opposite effect.

He thinks, however, that much may be effected by timely persuasion; and several self-devoted victims have through his means been rescued from a cruel death, and are now supported by his bounty. Both the Tanjore rajah and Tondiman have made it known that they support and protect every woman who allows herself to be dissuaded from burning with the body of her husband: this benevolent intention was allowed to gain publicity without attracting observation to it, but it is now generally understood, and sufficiently evinces their sentiments upon the subject of self-immolation. When, therefore, it is taken into consideration how much the wishes of a native prince influence the conduct of his subjects, it is not perhaps being too sanguine to expect that the unobtrusive, but unequivocal mode in which the Rajah of Tanjore and Tondiman have shown that they discountenance such inhuman rites, and the judicious and timely persuasion which they are determined to use to prevent them, may be attended with considerable effect; that they will in all instances be successful is not, I fear, to be anticipated—the body of the people must be more enlightened before reason can finally triumph over such deep-rooted superstition.

Amongst the Bombay papers, there are found some proofs of the continued good effects produced by the regulations concerning the mode of constructing the pile, made by the leading shastrees, at the instance of Capt. Robertson, in consequence of the atrocious transaction at Poonah in September 1813, detailed in the last collection of papers published on this subject.* By this regulation, the pile is built so as to allow of the woman's escape; she is not to be bound, &c. Capt. Robertson (the collector at Poonah) states, in a letter amongst the papers before us, that “the retraction of vows by all those who made them during the first three or four months subsequently to October 1823 (the date of the rules referred to) seems effectually to have produced a permanent conviction that no woman will be able to undergo the trial without discredit; and the brahmins of the city seem reconciled to the belief that the custom will no longer be preserved unless some outrageous zealot of affection and religion ventures and actually endures the torture before the memory of the custom fades away. I am inclined to think,” he adds, “that there will never be another suttee in the town of Poonah.”

This opinion, unfortunately, proved in the sequel unfounded. A month after this was written, two suttees took place in the neighbourhood of Poonah, the account of one of which, by Mr. Pringle, deserves insertion:

Information was brought to me yesterday morning at Peepulwundee, where I was encamped, that a suttee was about to sacrifice herself at the village (Boree); I immediately sent my carcoons to try to dissuade the woman, and at least prevent her mounting the pile till I should arrive. I rode over myself in the afternoon, and found that every argument had already been used to prevent her without effect. I told her that she would suffer no disgrace by not going, and if she was under any anxiety about her future maintenance, I would take care she should not want; but that if she persisted in burning, it must be according to the rule of the shasters, when if, as was most probable, her nerves should fail her, and she came out of the fire, she would lose her caste and reputation. When she heard this she smiled, and told me that she was actuated from no sudden impulse of enthusiasm, but that it had been the cool determination of her whole life, ever since she was married, and that she had often promised her husband she would not survive him, and she was fully resolved to abide by her word; that if she wished to remain she had children and relations who would be willing to support her, but her resolution was not to be altered by any offers of maintenance; that with regard to the form of the pile, the facility of escape would only serve to prove the firmness of her resolution, and she begged that I myself would be present

* See *Asiat. Journ.* vol. xx., p. 634.

present to see how heroically she could behave. She appeared to be between fifty and sixty years of age, and had two sons and several grandchildren; her husband resided as private tutor in the family of Gopal Row Deshpande, at Chinchodee, where he died three days ago: she herself had gone the day before yesterday to the Ala basar, where another suttee had been burnt, and she had assisted at the ceremony; on her return home in the evening she was met by the messenger bringing her husband's bones; she immediately expressed her determination of burning with them, much to the grief of her family and the villagers, who remained up the whole night trying to dissuade her, but in vain. When I found her determined to go, I took care to have the pile constructed on the most orthodox plan; above was a light covering of dry twigs supported by four forked posts firmly fixed in the ground; the ground below was covered with wood and cow-dung, leaving a space of about five feet to the top, on three sides the pile was surrounded with grass and straw, and the fourth was left entire open. After the preliminary ceremonies, which the woman went through with perfect self-possession, it was nearly dark when she was brought up to the pile; I told her to look at it well before she went further, she did so, and said distinctly her resolution was fixed: she stopped a few minutes at the edge of the pile performing the last ceremonies, during which time her senses appeared to be failing her; she was then assisted in mounting, and all were made to stand at a little distance, except her two sons who applied the light to the outside of the pile, as she did within; not a word was uttered, and in a moment the pile was in a blaze—she raised herself and turned completely round, and her cries were heard distinctly for about three minutes, when the fury of the flames, fortunately by the dryness of the fuel, and the strength of the wind, soon put an end to her sufferings. The surrounding grass was consumed almost instantly, and the covering above remained burning, but did not fall in till long after her death: her person was quite visible during the whole of the time—the by-standers were amazed at her constancy, but she was an old woman, and was perhaps too feeble to get out of the fire, otherwise I think human nature would have been too strong in her to have permitted her to remain as she did. I have been thus particular, as I believe it is the first time the new pile has had a trial, and the account may perhaps interest you. It was not until yesterday that I heard of the Ala suttee, which the villagers had not reported to the shekdaur; I fancy it was conducted on the old plan; it was much against the will of the brahmins that I carried my point yesterday, but when I appealed to the shasters they had nothing to answer.

Not long after, in June 1825, a suttee occurred (as it appears) in Poonah itself, at which Capt. Robertson, the resident, was himself present, and superintended the construction of the pile; and he says, "in so far as I can at present judge, I do believe that the new method had as fair a trial as it was in the nature of things to permit." The victim never moved from the spot on which she was laid down, and her death was supposed to have been instantaneous. Mr. Arbuthnot, the collector's assistant, who likewise witnessed the scene, thinks the suffering in such a pile slight, and that if it is not considered practicable to put a stop to suttees entirely, no pile can be more efficient for preventing suffering.

A third suttee took place at Poonah, under the eye of Capt. Robertson, in the same month. The woman underwent the ceremony with astonishing fortitude: Capt. R. adds that he learnt for the first time that "the cause of our not having had any rain for two years was generally attributed to the escape of Radhabyee in 1823."

The reform in respect to the construction of the pile appears to have been introduced into the southern Concan (the grand scene of suttees under the Bombay Government), with the concurrence of the natives, as sanctioned by their shasters. But although it might be supposed, to use the words of Mr. Blane, the magistrate of that district that, "if strictly adhered to, no woman could

could possess the fortitude to persist in her determination unto the positive completion of the sacrifice, and that the custom could merely exist in the casual infraction of these rules by the employment of illegal means in the absence of European superintendence;" yet experience showed the contrary. This gentleman records an instance in which the rules were strictly adhered to, and the almost incredible fortitude of the woman was manifested to the astonishment of at least ten European witnesses :

The suttee alluded to took place immediately below the Fort of Rutnagerry on the 4th ultimo. All the gentlemen at the station attended, and persuasion proving useless, the greatest attention was paid to the construction of the pile, in hopes that she might finally escape without much injury. The wind blew from behind, and we could see every thing most distinctly. The fire lit gradually, and we observed her writhing with agony as the flames just caught her clothes, and then enveloped her body, but she did not utter a scream, or make the least attempt to escape. The order and silence in which the whole was conducted, and the presence of so many Europeans, must have increased her protection, had she the least failed in her determination ; and we were almost horrified with the idea that our intended merciful interference had been the cause of prolonging her agony.

Mr. Elphinstone observes upon this statement, that " such instances of infatuation in our day are surprising and shocking ; but they convey a useful lesson, as they show how intense a devotion must be felt for the Hindoo superstition, when it can carry its votaries through such trials."

Mr. Anderson, the criminal judge at Surat, gives an account of the uncommon occurrence of a suttee at that place, which he vainly endeavoured to prevent. He was present at the dreadful scene :

The conduct of the widow throughout, was that of the most perfect firmness, and freedom from alarm ; she engaged in and witnessed the appalling preparatory ceremonies with a collectedness and presence of mind I could not have conceived. Seated on the pile, she adjusted the faggots about her with an unaltered countenance, and on my addressing her, with a last hope, that, in that situation, she might be shaken, saying, that I would still protect her in a return to her house, she*unhesitatingly, and in the tone and manner she had preserved throughout, declared, that what she was engaged in was her happiness. Aloud she called to her son, directing him to heap the fuel upon her, and then, with her own hand, applied the torch to the pile. For two or three seconds the torch did not take effect—she sat with unchanged countenance—the flames then burst forth—she was seen clapping her hands, and in less than a minute all of this most frightful and revolting spectacle was over.

The policy of this partial interference, in the superintendence of Europeans of the construction of the pile, and their enforcing compliance with the rules laid down by the shastrees, forms the subject of an interesting discussion between Mr. Elphinstone, the Governor of Bombay, and Mr. Warden, Member of Council : we must, however, reserve this part of the subject, along with our own observations, till next month.

ACCOUNT OF THE MISSION TO AVA.

Mr. Crawford, the late envoy to the court of Ava, has furnished an interesting account of his journey into that country, and his visit to the capital, which, although long, we insert entire from the *Calcutta Government Gazette* of March 1st :—

The mission left Rangoon on the 1st September, and reached Henzada on the 8th. Here we were received with much polite attention by the future Viceroy of Pegu, who has the rank of a wūngyi, or counsellor, the highest enjoyed by a subject. He was very solicitous, however, to prevent our going further, intimating that he was himself vested with full powers to treat with us upon every possible subject.

He had no opportunity, however, of exercising his plenipotentiary powers upon the present occasion, for the mission, disregarding his pretensions, on the afternoon of the 10th quitted Henzada, and on the afternoon of the 14th, a few miles beyond Myanaong, or Loonzay, entered the hilly region, which is the proper geographical boundary of the Burman race—all to the south being the Delta, or *debouchement* of the Irawadi, and the true country of the Peguans or Talains.

Pursuing our journey with hills now pressing down to the river on both sides, and which struck us at the time as peculiarly picturesque and beautiful, after passing through the long tiresome champain of the Delta of the Irawadi, we reached Prome on the evening of the 15th. This is one of the largest towns in the Burman empire, and appeared to be not less populous than Rangoon. The inhabitants, since the war, had returned to their homes—the place was in a good measure restored, and although it had been long the headquarters of the British army, there was now no re-action or persecution. All this bore favourable testimony to the moderation of the Myowūn, or governor, whom we found an extremely respectable man.

We left Prome on the 17th, and on the 20th reached Patnagoh and Melloon, the scene of the conferences in December 1825, which led to the first treaty, which was never ratified, or even transmitted for ratification, a breach of engagement for which the Burmese received signal castigation on the spot.

On the 21st we left those places, and on the 22d reached Renangyoung, or the “fetid oil brooks,”—in other words, the petroleum wells. In the afternoon we visited the wells, and the remarkable and sterile country which surrounds them, abounding every where with fossil remains of one of the last great changes which the globe has undergone.

On the 23d we left Renangyoung, and in the course of the forenoon passed Senbegyoung, from which leads the best road from Aracan, and by which Major Ross and a battalion of sepoys proceeded in the month of March last.*

On the morning of the 24th we reached Pagan, and staid there for that day, and part of the following, examining the curious antiquities of this place, the most remarkable in the Burman dominions, and the extensive ruins of which, if such evidence were not too well known to be delusory, might lead to the supposition, that in former ages the Burmese were a people more powerful and civilized than we now find them.

On the 27th we passed the confluence of the Kyendween and the Irawadi. The prospect afforded by their junction is far from imposing. Both rivers are here confined to a narrow bed, and the tongue of land which divides them is

* See an account of this journey, *Asiat. Journ.*, vol. xxiii., p. 14.

so low, and covered with reeds, that it may easily be mistaken for an island, and consequently, the smaller river to be only a branch of the larger.

The prospect hitherto presented, in a route little less than four hundred miles, was that of a country imperfectly cultivated and inhabited, and by far the greatest part of which was covered with a deep forest, or with tall reeds and grass, among which there was scarcely any evidence of culture or occupation. We were now, however, within fifty miles of the capital, and the scene began greatly to improve: the country became level, the nearest ranges of hills to the east being at least thirty miles distant, and the Arracan mountains, to the west, not less than fifty in the nearest part, and sixty or seventy in the distant. The villages and cultivation had increased considerably; but neither here nor anywhere else did we see evidence of a dense population or active industry.

At two o'clock in the afternoon we passed Yandabū, where the treaty was dictated to the Burmans, and sailed within a stone's throw of the great tree where Sir A. Campbell's tent was pitched, and the conferences were held.

On the afternoon of the 28th we reached Rapatong, a village on the east bank of the river: this was the spot at which the Burmans contemplated making their last effort, had the British army not been arrested in its progress by the treaty of Yandabū. Here they were encamped, under the old chief Kaulen Mengyi, the whole disposable force not exceeding a thousand men, and the greater number of these consisting, not of soldiers, but of the personal retainers and menial servants of the chiefs. Two forced marches would have carried Sir A. Campbell to Ava, on a good high road, with nothing to resist him but the dispirited fugitives just mentioned. In the evening we reached Kyaktalon, twelve miles from Ava. A short way before coming to that place, a deputation, headed by a secretary of the Lotoo, met us, to compliment us on our arrival, and usher us into the capital.

On the morning of the 29th we left Kyaktalon. After we had proceeded a few miles, an order from the court arrived, requesting that we might stop where we were, as it was the intention to send down a deputation of persons of superior rank to conduct us. The promised deputation, consisting of a wooduck and three saredaugyis,* accordingly came, and on the morning of the 30th we arrived at the capital, anchoring about two miles below the city, opposite to the place appointed for our temporary residence. Thousands flocked down to the bank of the river, out of curiosity to see the steam-vessel. A similar curiosity was displayed every where else on our journey, nearly the whole population of towns and villages turning out to see her.

On landing, we were received with ceremonious politeness by a Wūngyi and Atwenwūn, the two highest classes of officers under the Burmese government. These were the individuals who had negotiated and signed the treaty of Yandabū. The politeness which dictated the selection of these two individuals was obvious.

Our audience, under various pretexts, was put off from day to day, until the 21st of October. In the meanwhile, we were treated with attention. The expenses of the whole mission were paid, and we were put under no other constraint than that of not being permitted to enter the walls of the town, a liberty which would have been contrary to established etiquette. Meanwhile the negotiation had commenced, and on the 13th, 14th, and 15th, we were present, by special invitation, at the annual display of boat races, which take place

* Principal secretaries.

place yearly when the waters of the Irawadi begin to fall. The King and Queen, with the princes and nobility, were all present. The splendour of this pageant far exceeded our expectation, and would have made a figure in the Arabian Nights' Entertainments, as one of the good things got up by virtue of Aladdin's Lamp.

The period chosen for our presentation was that of one of the annual festivals, when the tributaries, princes, and nobility offer presents to his Majesty, and their wives to the Queen.

Boats were sent for our accommodation, and about 10 o'clock in the forenoon we reached the front of the palace. An elephant was appropriated to each of the English gentlemen, and the procession moved on until arriving at the Ring-dau, or hall of justice, which is to the east side of the palace, where we were detained for nearly three hours, to afford us an opportunity of admiring the pomp and magnificence of the Burmese court, but above all, to afford the court an opportunity of displaying it.

At that place the whole court, with the exception of his Majesty, passed in review before us, beginning with the officers of lowest rank, and ending with the princes of the blood. The courtiers were in their dresses of ceremony, and each chief was accompanied by a numerous retinue, besides elephants and horses. The retainers of Menzagy, the Queen's brother, the most powerful chief about the court, could not have been fewer than 300.

We were at length summoned into the royal presence. The etiquette insisted upon with Colonel Symes seemed not to have escaped the recollection of the Burman officers, and they would have us to practise the same ceremonies he had been necessitated to submit to; but times had changed. These ceremonies consisted in making repeated obeisances to the walls of the palace, and in walking barefooted, or at least without shoes, across the court-yard. All this we peremptorily refused, although the officers who led the procession shewed us a very good example, in prostrating themselves repeatedly, by throwing their bodies prone upon the bare ground. Upon reaching the bottom of the stairs, leading to the hall of audience, we voluntarily took off our shoes, passed through the long hall, and seated ourselves in front of the throne. His Majesty did not keep us long waiting. After a hymn had been chaunted by a band of brahmins in white, he made his appearance, upon the opening of a folding door behind the throne, and mounted the steps which led to the latter briskly. He was in his richest dress of state—wore a crown, and held in his hand the tail of a Thibet cow, which is one of the Burman regalia, and takes place of a sceptre.

He was no sooner seated than her Majesty, who, whether on public or private occasions, is inseparable from him, presented herself in a dress equally rich with his, and more fantastic. Both had on a load of rich jewels. She seated herself on his Majesty's right hand. She was immediately followed by the Princess, their only child, a girl about five years of age. Upon the appearance of the King and Queen, the courtiers humbly prostrated themselves. The English gentlemen made a bow to each, touching the forehead with the right hand. The first thing done was to read a list of certain offerings made by the King to some temples of celebrity at the capital. The reason for doing this was assigned. The temples in question were said to contain relics of Guatama, to be representatives of his divinity, and therefore fit objects of worship. His Majesty having thus discharged his religious obligations, received, in his turn, the devotions and homage of the princes and chiefs.

The King did not address a word in person to the officers of the mission, but

but an Atwenwoon, or privy councillor, read a short list of questions, as if coming from the King. These, as far as I can recollect, were as follows :

"Are the King and Queen of England, their sons and daughters, and all the nobility of the kingdom, well ?

"Have the seasons been of late years propitious in England ?

"How long have you been on your voyage from India to this place ?" &c.

Betel, tobacco, and pickled tea, were after this presented to the English gentlemen ; a mark of attention shewn to no one else. They afterwards received each a small ruby, a silk dress, and some lackered boxes. This being over, and a few titles bestowed and proclaimed throughout the hall, the King and Queen retired, the courtiers prostrating themselves as when they entered. Their Majesties had sat in all about three-quarters of an hour. The Burman court upon the present occasion appeared in all the pomp and splendour of which it is capable, and the spectacle was certainly not a little imposing. The princes and nobility were in their court dresses, of purple velvet, with a profusion of lace and gold. The hall of audience is a gorgeous and elegant apartment, supported by ninety-six pillars, and the whole is one blaze of rich gilding.

In going through the court-yard, the white elephant and some other royal curiosities were shewn to us, and we stopped for a moment to see an exhibition of tumblers, buffoons, and dancing girls.

After the audience, the gentlemen of the mission were occupied for several successive days in paying visits to the heir apparent, the Prince of Sarrawadi, the Dowager Queen, and the Queen's brother. By all these personages they were received with marked politeness and attention. The ladies presented themselves on these occasions as well as the men. There was no reserve in respect to the fair sex.

The negotiation was then renewed, and on the 23d of November, besides settling some points respecting frontiers, a short treaty of commerce of four articles was concluded.

The mission continued at the Burman capital in all about two months and a half, and quitted it on the 12th of December, after being honoured with two audiences of his Majesty; the one on occasion of catching a wild elephant, and the other on that of weaning a young one—favourite diversions of the King. On the occasions in question, his Majesty threw off all reserve, and conversed freely and familiarly with our countrymen. On the day of departure, presents were sent for the Governor-General, and each of the English gentlemen received a title of nobility.

The Irawadi, which, swollen by the periodical rains, was deep and broad in coming up, was found in descending to have fallen from twenty to thirty feet; and the navigation consequently proved extremely intricate and tedious. The steam-vessel was in all aground fifteen days, and frequently ran the risk of being totally lost. The voyage to Rangoon occupied thirty-five days, which, in a small boat suited for the river, ought to have been performed in ten. At Pagan, about eighty miles below Ava, the mission was for the first time informed of the insurrection of the Talains. At Henzada and Donabaw the inhabitants were seen flying from the seat of insurrection. The insurgents were first seen at Paulang. This place, where the river is not above sixty yards broad, was strongly stockaded in three places, and the Talains were seen standing to their arms. The steam-vessel came to for a few moments to request a safe passage for the baggage and boats which were behind, and for the boats of some merchants which accompanied them, amounting in all to about twenty-two. Boats put off immediately, and the Talains came on board without

without the least hesitation. They were full of friendly professions, and requested only our neutrality. Our visitors saluted us in the manner of English sepoys, standing up. This, they said, was the positive order of his Talain Majesty, who declared he would permit no one henceforth to crouch in his presence, or that of any other chief. They also boasted that they treated their prisoners after the English fashion, that is to say, disarmed them and set them at liberty, without offering them any personal violence. They claimed the greater merit for this, on account of the conduct observed by the Burmans towards them, who, they alleged, put all their prisoners to death, or, as they expressed it, "divided them into three parts."

On the morning of the 17th the mission reached Rangoon. The Burman flag was seen flying on one side of the river, and the Talain on the other, not 600 yards asunder. The town of Rangoon was invested on all sides by the Talains, and the suburbs had been burnt to the ground. We had hardly been at anchor half an hour, and were engaged in reading our letters and newspapers, when the garrison made a sortie, and an action took place, reckoned the most considerable since the commencement of the insurrection. On both sides it was paltry and contemptible to the last degree. The Talains in one place caught sleeping or cooking fled to their boats, and were soon seen crossing the river in great numbers. At another post, between the town and the great pagoda, they were more vigilant, and easily repulsed a feeble and cowardly attack made by the Burmans.

On the 23d the mission left Rangoon, and in less than four and twenty hours reached the new settlement of Amherst, in the harbour of which we found lying the Company's ships *Investigator* and *Ternate*, and a large fleet of gun-boats. To these in a few days were added the large merchant ships *Almorah*, *Felicitas*, and *Bombay Merchant*, with two trading brigs and some schooners. This was a curious spectacle, in a harbour which was not known to exist ten months ago. The settlement contains from 1,600 to 1,700 inhabitants. Maulemhyeng, the military cantonment, twenty-seven miles further up the river, contains twice this number, chiefly camp followers. Neither of them had a single inhabitant a few months back, but, on the contrary, were covered with a thick forest. This fine country already produces some of the necessaries and comforts of European life, in a degree which, under all circumstances, is remarkable. Fowls are to be had in abundance for five rupees per dozen; a milch buffalo and calf for fifteen rupees; fish is in abundance and of excellent quality: the best kinds are the calcop, the large mullet, and the mangoe-fish. It is curious that this last is found in plenty both in the rivers of Rangoon and of Martaban, with roes, for nine months of the year, or from December to August inclusive; whereas in the Hooghly three months is the utmost limit of their season.

On the 26th the mission proceeded to Maulemhyeng, and on the 28th ascended the Ataran river in the steam-vessel. This stream, which is deep and free from danger, might be navigated for fifty miles up by vessels of 300 to 400 tons burthen. It leads to teak forests, distant about seventy-five miles, inexhaustible in quantity, and of the largest scantling.

On the 8th of February, the ship *Bombay Merchant* having been taken up for the accommodation of the mission, the members embarked that evening, and on the following morning sailed for Calcutta.

The following is a very brief sketch of what has been observed by the mission in the department or science of statistics. In the departments of minéralogy and geology, it is to be regretted, that no scientific observer accompanied the

the mission. Our party, however, were assiduous collectors, and the collection brought back is so extensive, that it would afford men of science a very tolerable notion of the mineralogical and geological constitution of the countries which were visited. From between the latitude of 15° and 16° , to between that of 18° and 19° , is a low alluvial country, forming the *debutement* of the Irawadi river. Here not a mountain or a stone is to be found, except in a very few places, such as Rangoon and Syriam, where a little cellular clay iron-ore presents itself in low hills. In about lat. $18^{\circ} 30'$ we quit the Delta of the Irawadi, the native country of the Talain race, and enter at once into a hilly region, which extends almost all the way to Ava, or to about the lat. of $21^{\circ} 50'$. The Irawadi, in all this course, is skirted by hills of from about 300 to 500 feet high. The lowest portion of these is composed of breccia, calcareous sandstone, cellular clay iron-ore, with beds of sand and clay; and the highest of blue mountain limestone. The lowest portions are alluvial, and highly interesting to the geologist. The gentlemen of the mission discovered in these abundance of sea shells, with fossil wood and bones. Among the latter are the bones of the fossil elephant, or mammoth, fossil rhinoceros, various ruminant animals, alligators, and tortoises. An immense collection of these has been brought round for the Government. Some of the bones are of great size, and all completely petrified. There are among them the teeth, and such other portions of the skeleton as will enable the experienced naturalist to determine the genera and species to which they belonged. These were obtained close to the celebrated petroleum wells. From their great induration, and having been little rolled, they are, generally, in a very perfect state. The bones, as well as the fossil-wood, are found superficially in gravel, the same situation in which similar diluvian or antediluvian remains have been found in other quarters of the globe.

The ranges of mountains to the E. and N. of Ava, as far as twenty miles, and those close to the city, on the western bank of the river, are all of marble, and this of many varieties. The white statuary marble, some of which is very beautiful, is brought forty miles down the river, from a mountain on its eastern bank.

The great ranges of mountains, dividing the Burman dominions from Arracan on one side, and Siam on another, are reasonably supposed to be primitive. In the last direction, the roots of these seem to extend to the new settlement of Amherst, where we find granite, quartz, and mica slate. Some continuous low ranges, in the Martaban district, are composed entirely of quartz rock. Blue mountain-limestone is a frequent formation in the same district, from which lime of much purity is manufactured. Detached rocks of this substance are scattered over the plains. These rise abruptly and perpendicularly to the height of from 300 to 500 feet, and in one place to 1,500. They contain some spacious caves, which have been converted into places of worship. One of these rocks is so remarkable, that it deserves particular mention. Its perpendicular wall confines the Ataran for several hundred yards on its right bank. About its middle it is penetrated by a branch of the river, which flows quite through it by a magnificent arch. This is a highly picturesque object.

Neither the proper Burman or Talain country appear to be rich in metallic ores, with the exception of those of iron, tin, and antimony. The principal consumption of the country in iron is supplied from the great mountain of Poupa, on the eastern side of the Irawadi, and near the latitude of 21° . Lao, the country of the Shans, as it is denominated by the Burmans, is, on the

contrary

contrary, extremely prolific in metals. The singular passion of the Burmans for the study of alchemy, has brought collections of the ores of Lao into the market of Ava, and this circumstance enabled the gentlemen to make collections of them. The ores thus obtained consisted of those of iron, silver, lead, copper, and antimony. The Shans possess the art of smelting all these, and bring them in their metallic state into the market of Ava. The silver ores in the Burman dominions are, however, wrought to the greatest advantage by the Chinese. The mines exist about twelve days' journey to the N.E. of Bamoo, towards the Chinese frontier.

The celebrated sapphire and ruby mines which have always afforded, and still continue to afford, the finest gems of this description in the world, are about five days' journey from Ava, in a direction E.S.E., and at two places called Mo-gaot and Kyat-pyan. The different species of sapphire, both in their crystallized and rough state, and the matrix, or rather gravel, in which they are found, were seen, examined, and collections made. In these mines are found the following gems or stones: the red sapphire or oriental ruby, the oriental sapphire, the spinelle ruby, the white, the yellow, the green, the opalescent, the amethyst and girasol sapphire, blue with a reddish reflection, with the common corundum, or adamantine spar, in large quantities.

The oriental ruby, perfect in regard to water, colour, and freedom from flaws, is scarce and high-priced even at Ava. The blue sapphire is more common, and cheaper: one specimen exhibited to us weighed 951 carats, but it was not perfect. The red sapphire never approached this magnitude. The other varieties are all rare, and not much esteemed by the Burmans, with the exception of the girasol sapphire, of which we saw two or three very fine specimens, and the green sapphire or oriental emerald, which is very rare. The King makes claim to every ruby or sapphire beyond a hundred ticals value; but the claim is one not easy to enforce. The miners, to avoid this sage law, break the stones when they find them, so that each fragment may not exceed the prescribed value. His Majesty last year got but one large ruby; this weighed about 140 grains avoirdupois, and was considered a remarkable stone. Sapphires and rubies form a considerable article of the exports of the Chinese, who are the cleverest people in the world in evading the absurd fiscal laws made by themselves and others. The use they put them to is that of decorating the caps of their mandarins, or nobility. Precious serpentine is another product of the Burman empire, which the Chinese export to a larger value.

The gentlemen of the mission examined carefully the celebrated petroleum wells, near which they remained for eight days, owing to the accident of the steam-vessel taking the ground in their vicinity. Some of the wells are from thirty-seven to fifty-three fathoms in depth, and are said to yield at an average daily from 130 to 185 gallons of the earth oil. The wells are scattered over an area of about sixteen square miles. The wells are private property, the owners paying a tax of five per cent. of the produce to the state.

This commodity is almost universally used by the Burmans as lamp oil. Its price on the spot does not, on an average, exceed from 5d. to 7½d. per cwt. The other useful mineral or saline productions of the Burman empire are coal, saltpetre, soda, and culinary salt. One of the lakes affording the latter, which is within six or seven miles of the capital, was examined by the gentlemen of the mission.

The success of the mission has been the completest in the department of botany. This will readily occur to readers when they recollect the talent, zeal, industry, and skill of the gentleman at the head of this branch of inquiry.

inquiry. Dr. Wallich has been left behind at Amherst, to complete his inquiry into the resources of the valuable forests of that and the neighbouring districts. Until this be effected, the full extent of his successful researches cannot be known. The number of species collected by him amounted, when the mission left him at Amherst, to about 16,000, of which 500 and upwards are new and undescribed. Among these last may be mentioned seven species of oak, two species of walnut, a rose, three willows, a raspberry, and a pear; several plants discovered by him are so remarkable, as to constitute themselves new genera. Among the latter may be mentioned one which has been called *Amherstia*, in compliment to the Lady Amherst. This constitutes, probably, the most beautiful and noble plant of the Indian *Flora*. Two trees of it only are known to exist, and these are found in the gardens of a monastery on the banks of the Salwen. The number of specimens brought to Calcutta amount to little less than 18,000, among which are many beautiful live plants for the Botanical Garden, chiefly of the orchideous, scitamineous, and liliaceous families. Dr. Wallich, when at Ava, obtained permission of the Burmese government to prosecute his botanical researches on the mountains about twenty miles from Ava. In these, which are from 3,000 to 4,000 feet high, he spent eight days, and brought from them some of the finest parts of his collection. These mountains contain several plants which are common to them with the Himalaya chain, but the greater part of their *Flora* is rare and curious. The botany of the new provinces to the south is considered to be highly novel and interesting, combining, in a great degree, the characters of the *Floras* of continental India and the Malayan countries.

In economical botany a good deal has been effected. The tree producing the celebrated varnish has been discovered and described, and the process of extracting and using the varnish observed. The different mimosas producing catechu have also been determined, and the processes for extracting the drug observed. The localities of the different teak forests throughout the Burman empire, as well as the quality and price of the timber, have been ascertained. The valuable forests of this tree, discovered in our recent cessions, were upon the point of being minutely explored by Dr. Wallich. Lieut. Scotland, under the instructions of Sir A. Campbell, had, just before the arrival of the mission at Amherst, made a journey by land to the Siamese frontier, in the course of which he passed through two teak forests, towards the source of the Ataran river. The largest of these was five miles in breadth, and scarcely contained any other tree than teak, many of which measured from eighteen to nineteen feet in circumference.

One of the oaks already mentioned, and which grows to a large size, is found in great abundance, close to the new settlement of Amherst; and should it prove a valuable timber, which is most probable, it may be obtained with every facility. A fine durable timber, called by the Burmans *thingan*, and which they place next to the teak, or almost on an equality with it, is found every where throughout the new provinces. Dr. Wallich has ascertained this to be the *Hopea odorata* of Roxburgh. Another valuable timber, the uses of which are well known in our Indian arsenals and timber yards, the soondree, *Herietera robusta*, is found largely in the maritime parts of the Martaban district, and of a size much exceeding what is brought from the Sunderbunds of the Ganges. Of these woods, and many others in use amongst the natives, although as yet unknown to us, specimens will be brought to Bengal by Dr. Wallich, for the purpose of subjecting their qualities to rigid experiment.

In the department of zoology, if we except the fossil bones already described,

cribed, the inquiries of the gentlemen of the mission have not been so successful. The features of the animal kingdom, indeed, differ much less from those of Hindustan than the vegetable. Still there is, no doubt, much room for discovery when the countries are leisurely explored by experienced naturalists. In the Martaban provinces, the forests of which teem with the elephant, the rhinoceros, the wild buffaloe, ox, and deer, a new species of the latter is believed to exist. In the upper provinces a species of mole-rat is very frequent, and thought to be an undescribed animal. Some of the officers of our army imagined that they had ascertained the existence of the jackall and fox in the upper provinces of the Burman empire, but this seems to be a mistake. It is a singular fact, that neither these animals, nor the wolf, hyena, or any other of the genus *canis* is found there, with the exception of one animal, which is yet undescribed, and the howl of which it was that was mistaken for that of the jackall. The feline tribe, especially the larger species, are but rare in the upper provinces of the Burman empire, but too frequent in the lower. The night before we left Maulamhyeng, a tiger was shot in the heart of the cantonment, by a party of officers who lay in wait for him. Two or three of the smaller species of this family, found in Martaban and Pegu, are thought to be as yet unknown to naturalists. In Martaban, two new species of pheasant have been found, of which living specimens have been sent to Calcutta. The celebrated elephant must not be forgotten. At Ava there is but one Albino elephant; this, a male of about twenty-five years of age, was repeatedly seen and examined by the gentlemen of the mission; and his Majesty has made a present to the Governor-General of a drawing of the animal in its state caparison, which is no bad specimen of Burman art.

As connected with this department, may be mentioned the existence at Ava of a man covered from head to foot with hair, whose history is not less remarkable than that of the celebrated porcupine man, who excited so much curiosity in England, and other parts of Europe, near a century ago. The hair on the face of this singular being, the ears included, is shaggy, and about eight inches long. On the breast and shoulders it is from four to five. It is singular that the teeth of this individual are defective in number, the molares, or grinders, being entirely wanting. This person is a native of the Shan country, or Lao, and from the banks of the upper portion of the Saluen or Martaban river: he was presented to the King of Ava, as a curiosity, by the prince of that country. At Ava he married a pretty Burmese woman, by whom he has two daughters; the eldest resembles her mother, the youngest is covered with hair like her father, only that it is white or fair, whereas his is now brown or black, having, however, been fair when a child, like that of the infant. With the exceptions mentioned, both the father and his child are perfectly well-formed, and indeed, for the Burman race, rather handsome. The whole family were sent by the King to the residence of the mission, where drawings and descriptions of them were taken. Albinos occur, now and then, among the Burmese, as among other races of men. We saw two examples: one of these, a young man of twenty, was born of Burmese parents. They were ashamed of him, and considering him little better than a European, they made him over to the Portuguese clergyman. The reverend father, in due course, made him a Christian.

With respect to the literature and language of the Burmans, the mission was placed, in many respects, under very favourable auspices. One of the members of it, Dr. Judson, had acquired a knowledge of both far exceeding what any other European had ever done before him. Vocabularies have been collected

lected of some of the numerous dialects spoken within the Burman dominions, and which, in all, are not fewer than eighteen in number. Of the books which have been brought from Ava by the mission, may be mentioned a collection sent by the King to the Governor-General; among other works which this collection contains, is a Pali dictionary and grammar, with Burman translations, and some histories of Gautama, or Budd'ha, highly esteemed by the Burmans.

Burman history, such as it is, has been investigated with some success, and chronological tables of its principal events, true or alleged, been procured. These tables go as far back as 543 B.C. The first monarchs are said to have come from India, that is, from Magadha or Bahar, and to have fixed the seat of their government at Prome, where it continued for 336 years. Traces of the walls of the ancient capital are still to be seen a few miles distant from the modern town. The seat of government was afterwards transferred to Pagan, in the year of Christ 107, where it continued for more than twelve centuries. Hence the wonderful extent of the ruins of that capital. In 1322 the seat of government was transferred to Sakaing, and in 1364 to Ava, when it continued for 369 years, or until the capture of the place by the Talains. Alompra, or Alaong-Bura (one that expects to be a Budd'ha), made his native town, Momzaba (Motsobo) the capital of the empire in 1752. His descendants, by a silly and superstitious caprice, have been shifting the capital ever since. One of his sons removed it to Sakaing, another to Ava, another to Amerapura, and his present Majesty to Ava again, in 1822. Each of these barbarous changes was nearly equivalent to the destruction of a whole city. From the foundation of the monarchy to the present time, there have reigned 128 kings, which gives an average of something more than seventeen years to a reign.

Of relics of antiquity far more have been discovered than might have been expected to exist from previous accounts. The most remarkable are to be seen at Pagan, Sakaing, Sanku, and Ang-le-ywa. The mission had an opportunity of examining those of the two first, which consist of temples and inscriptions. The most remarkable by far are the ruins of Pagan, which extend for twelve miles along the eastern bank of the Irawadi, and to a depth of five or six. Many of the temples are still entire, and exhibit a style of architecture, and a superiority, both in building and materials, which far excel the present efforts of the Burmans. In one of the old temples at this place we found, to our surprise, images in stone, of braminical origin. These were figures of Vishnu, Siva, and Hanuman. Near another temple was discovered a small but neat and perfect inscription in the Deva Nagari. At Pagan we discovered not less than sixty inscriptions on sandstone; and including Sakaing and other places, we found in all not less than 330. In one place alone, the great temple of the Arracan image, near Amerapura, the late king had collected from various parts of the country no less than 260 such monuments. A few of these are on fine white marble, but the greater number upon sandstone. In form, the stones resemble the tomb-stones placed at the head of graves in an English church-yard. Some are in the round Pali character, and others in the Burman; but the greater number in the former. They all contain dates, and generally the name of the reigning king, with references to some historical event; but the chief object is to commemorate the founding of some temple or monastery. Translations of several of these inscriptions have been effected, and good drawings made of some of the most striking of the ancient temples. Information, in considerable detail, has been obtained respecting the condition of manufacturing and agricultural industry amongst the Burmans, the state of landed

landed tenures, the wages of labour, the price of food, and the rate of population. Barbarous as the Burmans must be admitted to be, in comparison with the Hindus, the Chinese, the Persians, and the Arabs, they have still some advantages over these nations, the natural result of the frame of society among them. The population is thinly scattered over an immense tract of fruitful country; the most fertile lands are so abundant that every man may have as much to cultivate as he chooses to occupy; food is low priced; labour highly rewarded. The people are easy in their circumstances, as far as mere food, clothing, and dwelling are concerned, and there is much equality amongst them; for if there be some rich, there are none very poor, and there is scarcely any beggary. These natural advantages are far more than counterbalanced by the possession of a government lawless and despotic, and from the oppression of which, the poverty of its subjects is their best protection. No man must here presume to be rich. If he acquire wealth, it is at the peril of becoming a prey to the harpies of government. Sooner or later he will get into trouble, and his property must be ultimately swallowed up in those sweeping confiscations which extinguish every germ of prosperity in the country.

The population and resources of the Burman empire seem to have been greatly exaggerated. The inhabitants have been reckoned at 17,000,000, at 19,000,000, and even at 33,000,000. Let any one accustomed to consider such matters, look at the country along the banks of the Irawadi, from the sea to Ava, a course of 500 miles, the best part of the kingdom; he will then see that the greater portion of it is covered with primeval forest, without vestige of present or former culture, and he will be convinced of the utter improbability of such exorbitant estimates.

The following fact will convey a better notion of the true state of population and improvement than any yet before the public. The three towns of Ava, Amerapura, and Sakaing, with the districts annexed to them, contain an area of 283 square miles, and constitute by far the best cultivated and most populous portion of the empire. It is nearly exempt from taxation, being favoured, through ancient and established usage, at the expense of the rest of the country. It contains, according to the public registers, 50,600 houses, and each house is estimated to have seven inhabitants, which makes their total population only 354,200. Ava itself certainly does not contain 30,000 inhabitants; and in population, wealth, industry, and trade, is greatly below the capital of Siam. The other large towns of the Burman empire, such as Rangoon, Prome, Monchabu, Monay, &c., which are not above a dozen in number, do not any of them contain above 10,000 inhabitants. The population of Rangoon was ascertained by an actual census in our own time, and found to amount only to between 8,000 and 9,000. It used formerly to be estimated as high as 30,000.

ON THE NAME AND SITE OF PARADISE.

THE sense now attached by general consent to the term "Paradise," is altogether foreign to its original signification: a remarkable example of the flexibility of language, and of the easy adaptation of a word to successive dissimilar meanings, is afforded by the mutation which has taken place in the ideas affixed to this term.

Confining our inquiries to its ordinary acceptation, as denoting the abode of our first parents, commonly called the Terrestrial Paradise, we are naturally induced to seek as near as possible at the fountain-head of language for the original name of this scene of unmingled human felicity. That the spot inhabited by Adam should have had a denomination, it would be reasonable to conclude, even in the absence of distinct evidence that at least the brute creation, "all cattle and the fowl of the air and every beast of the field," received a name before, in fact, the rational part of creation was complete.

Could we expect at the present day to obtain any clue to a discovery of the medium of intercourse between man and his Creator, the question might then be easily solved; but nothing besides conjecture can be resorted to as a guide; and conjectures upon this point are so wide, so various, and so conflicting, that they serve only to deter us from inquiry, or to render the investigation painful and obscure.

St. Ephraim and St. Basil insist strongly that the Aramean or Mesopotamian dialect of the Syriac, was that in which God delivered his commands to Adam; the Maronites, or eastern Christians, contend for the Chaldaic; James, Bishop of Roha, Bochart, and others, give the precedence to the Hebrew; Eutychius supports the Greek; Mr. Webb the Chinese; Goropius, Becanus, and Pezron, are warm for the Teutonic; whilst Gregory Nyssæus declares his antagonist Eunomius an *impious heretic* for supposing man to have received *any language whatever* from God.*

In Genesis, the blissful seat of our first parents is called "the Garden of Eden," עֵדֶן, in which name none of the elements or rudiments of "Paradise" can be discovered. Josephus,† however, in delivering the Mosaic account, which states that "God planted a garden eastward in Eden," says that, according to Moses, "God planted a *paradise* (παράδισος) towards the east:" in a subsequent passage,‡ where he speaks of the expulsion of our first parents, Josephus calls the place a garden—καὶ τὴν κήπον εἰς ἑσπερον χωρίον,—thereby shewing that he considered the terms synonymous.

The word παράδισος, or *paradise*, is by the testimony of the majority of writers allowed to be of Persian origin. The Hebrews appear to have had a similar word, namely, פֶּרֶדִּים, *pardes* or *pardus*, which seems to have had nearly the same original signification as the Greek παράδισος in each of its senses. Thus, in the three only places in the Old Testament where the Hebrew term occurs, namely, Neh. ii. 8, Eccles. ii. 5, and Cant. iv. 13, the LXX have rendered it by παράδισος: our translators have given different meanings to this word; in the first passage it is rendered *forest*; in the other two, *orchard*.

Richardson,§ in adverting to the opinion of Bochart to this effect, namely, "Nehemiah ii. 8, פֶּרֶדִּים (*pardus*) paradisus, creditur esse Persicum," remarks: "*fardūs*, فردوس, is, however, an Arabic word, as well as Hebrew: it is like-

wise

* Dissert. on Languages, &c. of Eastern Nations, notes, p. lxxiv.

† Antiq. Jud., lib. i. c. 3.

‡ Ibid., c. 4.

§ Dissert., notes p. xxxlii.

wise found in the Greek *παράδυσος* (an error for *παράδεισος*), but it is foreign to the Persian.* Richardson must mean the modern Persian, for he had before expressed his opinion that the specimens extant of the Zend and Pehlvi dialects were spurious and of modern date. But he strangely misunderstands Bochart, who alluded to the *ancient* Persian, which was undoubtedly the source from whence the Greeks derived the word, as may be shewn from numerous authorities.

Xenophon, a good evidence upon this point, in his *Cyropædia*,* puts the word *παράδεισος* into the mouth of Cyrus, as denoting an enclosed place for hunting wild beasts, such as lions, bears, leopards, &c.; and in his *Economics*, he makes Socrates say that, wherever the king of Persia goes, he is provided with enclosed gardens, which are called *paradises*, "full of every thing beautiful and good which the earth is able to yield."† A similar definition occurs in his *Memorabilia*.‡

Josephus, in his treatise against Appio,§ has introduced a passage from Berossus, wherein this word occurs in a manner which indicates that it was of Median as well as Persian parentage. The Chaldean writer, in describing the improvements made by Nabuchodonosor in Babylon, mentions that the king made a *pensile paradise*, or hanging garden (*κατασκευάσας τὸν καλόμενον κρεμαστὸν παράδεισον*), because his queen, who had been educated in Media, loved an object of this kind.

Diodorus Siculus|| relates that the Sidonians, when at war with Persia, destroyed the regal *paradises* wherein the Persian monarchs used to divert themselves.

Philostratus¶ speaks to the same sense in which the preceding writers use the term, observing that the kings of Persia used to hunt in their *paradises*, where the *barbarians* kept lions, bears, and panthers.

Aulus Gellius** tells us that those enclosed places in which wild beasts were kept in his time, by the vulgar called *vivaria*, the Greeks called *paradises*. Zozimus,†† however, speaking of a Persian *vivarium*, calls it by the name of *περίβολος*.

The author of the *Antiq. Constant.*,‡‡ referring to Chosroes, king of Persia, mentions the keeper of the king's *paradise*. Herodotus, Plutarch, and Procopius employ the term in a similar sense to the preceding.

From the testimony of these authors, including the sacred writers, we may assume that the early signification of the word *paradise* was that of an enclosed park,§§ a preserve, or pleasure grounds, of which Persia alone seems to have presented examples.

There are writers, however, who deny that the term originated in that country,

* — ω παιδὶς, ὡς ἀρὰ ἐφλυσερουμεν ὅτι τα ἐν τῇ παραδύσῳ θήρια ἐθρῶμεν.—*Lib. i. 17.*

† Οἱ παράδεισοι καλούμενοι, πάντων καλῶν τε καὶ ἀγαθῶν μίσοι, ὅποσα ἡ γῆ φύνει ἐβρίμει.

‡ *Lib. v.*

§ *Lib. i. 19.*

|| —τον μὲν βασιλικὸν παράδεισον, ἐν ᾧ τὰς καταλύσεις οἱ τῶν Περσῶν βασιλεῖς ἐωθεῖσαν ποιεῖσθαι,

κ. τ. λ.—*Hist. lib. xvi. 41.*

¶ *Vit. Apollon. lib. i. c. 38.*

** *Vivaria nunc dicuntur septa quædam loca in quibus feræ vivæ pascuntur. Vivaria quæ nunc vulgus dicit, sunt quos παράδεισος Græci appellant. Lib. iii. c. 20.*

†† *Lib. iii. de Persia.*

‡‡ Καθὼς ὁ παράδεισος διοικητῆς, ἐκείναι κρατήρις καὶ ἐκφυγῶν δὴλα πιστοποιεῖν ἐν χρονικῇ ἱστορίᾳ.—*P. 86.*

§§ Du Cange, *Gloss. in voc. "Parcus,"* assimilates the hunting places of the ancient kings of Persia to our parks.

country, though employed by writers when speaking of the Persian custom. Julius Pollux says that "Paradises would appear to be a barbaric name, which, like many other Persian words, was by habit adopted into the Greek language."* This Vossius controverts, observing that the object itself was of Persian invention, but the word was Greek. He adds that the Lydians were the first Grecian people who indulged themselves with *paradises*.† Vossius is countenanced by Aulus Gellius, and some of the Greek lexicographers, who analyze the word and demonstrate its parts to be Grecian. The former says it is from *παρεα*, *apud*, *notans intentionem loci*, and *δύω*, *rigo*, *reficio*, *amœnitatem recreo*. Suidas says that the place *παράδισος* is so called from the word *δύω*, *rigabo*, whence the verbal noun *δύσος*, and compounded with the preposition, *παρεα*, *juxta*, *παράδισος*, the *υ* being changed into *ι*; hence it means a watered garden. Others, he tells us, derive it from *δύω*, which signifies *manure*. Schröder says it is "α *δύω*, *δίω*, *idem quod δύω*." Martin deduces it from *פָּרַדִּים*, which the LXX render *βοτάνη*. These definitions are fanciful and gratuitous.

It is commonly considered that the Hebrew word *pardes* was the original of the Persian term, expressed by the Greek *παράδισος*. Scapula says: "*Hanc vocem Græci à Persis, Persæ ab Hebræorum vocabulo pardès, quod hortum domesticum, seu pomarium significat, dicuntur sumpsisse*."‡ Poole says: "*Vox est, ut Pollux verè dicit, Persica; quanquam et Hebræi usurpant. Sed Græci usu hanc vocem suam fecerunt*."§ Parkhurst derives the word *פָּרַדִּים* *pardes*, from Heb. *פָּרַד* *to separate*, and Arab. *دَل* *to hide*, as denoting a secret enclosure, or separate covert.|| There is little reason to doubt that the modern Persic, or rather Arabic, word *فردوس* *firdaws*, a garden, in the plural, *فَرادِس* *farâdis*, comes from the Hebrew word. The term for *Paradise*, in the modern sense of a place of abode for happy spirits after death, is *جَنّت* *jannat*; the terrestrial paradise, or garden of Eden, *جَنّتِ عدن*.

The original meaning of the Hebrew term has been limited by modern writers. In Neh. ii. 8, where the term occurs, and is translated *forest*, "the keeper of the king's forest," the thing or object, as Vossius says, seems to be the same as in the Persian original, *παράδισος*; but in the other passages the sense given to it supports the dictum of Buxtorf,¶ who tells us that with Jewish writers the term signified no more than a common orchard or garden; and he renders it *hortus*, *pomarium*. He adds, however, that it is read in the Talmud as denoting the abode of the blest in heaven, and quotes Aruch on Tosephos, who says that the place where the souls of men are collected is called *pardes*. Parkhurst,** also, observes, that the Jews use *פָּרַדִּים* or *פָּרַדִּים*, *Paradise*, and *גֶּן עֵדֶן*, *the Garden of Eden*, for the intermediate state of holy departed souls.†† It is, moreover, contended that such senses were not attached to the terms in the Mosaic books, merely because Moses no where speaks of a separate state of souls.‡‡

At the era of our Saviour, the expressions "Paradise," and "Abraham's bosom," were used indiscriminately and equivalently to denote a state of happiness

* *Onomast. lib. ix. c. 13.*

† *Lex. in voc. "Paradisi."*

‡ *Gr. and Eng. Lex. in voc. Παράδισος.*

§ *Loc. cit. ante.*

¶ See Grot. and Wetstein on Luke xxiii. 43; and Campb. Prel. Dissert. p. 233.

‡‡ Moreri, *Diet.* viii. 63.

† *Etym. Lat. in voc. "Paradisi."*

§ *Syn. Crit. in Luc. xxiii. 43.*

¶ *Lex. Chald. in voc. פָּרַדִּים.*

ness after death; and the only passages where Moses intimates a sense indicative of a place of rest after death, namely, "the gathering of Isaac and Jacob to their people," the Jews interpret as signifying "the bosom of Abraham their father." Thus, in our Saviour's parable of Lazarus (Luke xvi. 22, 23) the beggar is carried after death into "Abraham's bosom;" in our Lord's address to the thief (Luke xxiii. 43) he says, "To-day thou shalt be with me in Paradise." The meaning of both phrases is doubtless the same.

The only other passages in the N. T. wherein the word *παράδεισος* occurs are two: first, that remarkable declaration of St. Paul (2 Cor. xii. 4), "And I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth) such an one caught up to the *third heaven*. And I knew such a man (whether in the body or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth). How that he was caught up into *Paradise*, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter." *Paradise* is here synonymous with the *third heaven*; i. e. an intermediate place of abode for holy departed souls, between death and the resurrection; not final rest and beatitude. Hence it is, probably, that the Greek church, which holds that virtuous souls go not to heaven till the judgment day, makes two sorts of paradises: one a bright and tranquil place (referred to in their liturgy) where departed spirits repose till the day of doom; the other, that state of eternal felicity which the blest enjoy after judgment. The other passage is Rev. ii. 7: "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God." Here the Apocalyptic writer identifies, by a figure, the actual abode of departed spirits with the terrestrial paradise, or Garden of Eden.

The early fathers of the Christian church considered the term *paradise* to signify, the place of abode for the saints: "*Paradisum*," says Tertullian,* "*nominamus locum divinæ amœnitatis, recipiendis sanctorum spiritibus destinatum*;" except when commenting upon the O. T., when they simply understood the term to denote a grove planted with trees, or an orchard: thus Gregory Nyssæus:† τὸ κατάφυτον καὶ συνηρέφεις τοῖς δένδροις ἄλσος, παράδεισον ἰσθμὸς καλεῖν ἢ συνηΐδια.

It thus appears that the term "paradise" is applicable to the Garden of Eden, not specifically but generally, on account of its being an inclosed place, a large park, planted with fruit and other trees, and stocked with animals. This is the only sense in which the abode of our first parents can properly be called a *paradise*, according to the primitive meaning of the term, be its origin Hebrew, Persian, Median, Babylonian, Greek, or, as Schröder contends, Armenian.

Should we endeavour to determine the site of this garden, we should be beset with infinitely greater impediments and perplexities than those which embarrass the attempt to adjust the derivation of its name.

The Mosaic account tells us that the garden was planted eastward in Eden (עֵדֶן, ἡδονή, delight?); that a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted into four, namely, Pison, which encompasses the whole land of Havilah;‡ Gihon, which encompasses the whole land of Ethiopia;

* *Apol.* c. 47.

† *Homil.* IX. in *Cant.* viii. 13.

‡ Havilah seems from other passages in the Sacred Text to be a portion of Arabia. Thus in Gen. xxv 18:—"And they (the Ishmaelites) dwelt from Havilah unto Shur, that is before Egypt, as thou goest towards Assyria." Again, 1. Sam. xv. 7: "And Saul smote the Amalekites from Havilah, until thou comest to Shur, that is over against Egypt."

Ethiopia; the Hiddekel,* which goeth toward the east of, or eastward to, Assyria; and the Euphrates. Josephus names these rivers differently; he calls the first Phison, which he identifies with the Ganges; the second Geon, which he says is the Nile; the third Diglath, which according to him is the Tigris; and the fourth Phora, or Euphrates.† He takes ample scope for the site of Paradise in placing it within such wide boundaries. Zonaras,‡ and other early Christian annalists, who began their chronicles from the creation of the world, adopted the hypothesis of Josephus.

According to the Rabbinical traditions, of which Bayle§ furnishes some ludicrous specimens, Paradise was separated from our world by the ocean, and Adam, when expelled from thence, walked through the ocean on foot to our world, being enabled to ford it by reason of his vast stature.

Epiphanius tells us that Origen assured him that Paradise was not situated upon the earth; Chrysostom intimates an opinion to the same effect; and in the following passage|| he seems to consider that Paradise is only to be understood in a spiritual sense: Πνευματικὸς λιμὼν παράδεισος τρυφῆς ἡ τῶν γραφῶν ἐστὶν ἀνάγνωσις. παράδεισος δὲ τρυφῆς ἐκείνη τῷ παραδείσῳ βελτίων. Τῦτον τον παράδεισον ἕκ ἐν τῇ γῇ, ἀλλ' ἐν ταῖς τῶν πιστευόντων ψυχαῖς ἐφύτευεν ὁ Θεός. τῦτον τον παράδεισον ἕκ ἐν 'Εδέμ, ὃδὲ κατὰ ἀνατολὰς ἔβητο ἐν ἐνὶ περιγυράφῳ χωρίῳ, ἀλλὰ πανταχῷ τῆς γῆς ἐξήπλασε, καὶ ἕς τὰ πέρατα τῆς οἰκουμένης ἐξέτεινε, κ. τ. λ.

This notion of the metaphorical character of Paradise was carried very far by Philo the Jew,¶ who converts the whole of the first chapter of Genesis into an allegory: he considers that by the planting of the garden (which he calls παράδεισος) we are to understand the planting by the Deity of a terrene virtue in the human race, like to his own celestial virtue; that the four rivers are to be interpreted as the four cardinal virtues, prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice; that by their flowing out of Eden is meant that they proceed from the wisdom of God, &c. Suidas seems partly to adopt this notion, when he says that paradise was of two sorts, sensible and intelligible; some, he observes, understand it to have been sensible, others intelligible: "I think," he adds, "it was both, and that it was created by God to suit the corporeal as well as the intellectual capacity of man."

Scaliger, in his elaborate and learned work *De Emend. Temp.*,** has the following statement: "Moses defines the limits of the place where God first placed man by two vast rivers, the Euphrates and the Tigris; for Moses describes a river going forth, i. e. flowing from Eden, divided into four, Phison, Gehon, Tigris, and Euphrates. Every one knows that the Tigris and Euphrates coalesce, and empty themselves into the Persian Gulf by a large mouth; but before they are received into the Gulf, they are again divided into two large streams, like the Po and the Rhone. That these streams or lakes existed, is not only attested by Arrian, but also by merchants who visited the spot some years before. Moses calls the river flowing eastward יַרְדֵּן, that is πλημμύραν, on account of the great lakes it made, like that by the Po. The other towards the west, he calls פְּרָת, that is, emissarium. It is more extended than the other, and therefore called an emissary, or a sluice, which that great mouth sends forth from itself. Hence, from the same cause, the stream which the pool of Jerusalem originated was called in

Hebrew

* A river which enters Persia, called by Daniel (x. 4) "the great river."

† *Antiq. Jud.*, lib. i. c. 3.

‡ *In voc.* "Adam."

¶ *Philo. Jud.*, *Alleg.* lib. i.

§ *Ann.*, lib. i. c. 2.

|| *Hom.* viii. in *Gen.*

** *Lib.* v.

Hebrew נַחַרְמַלְכָּה." Bryant* observes that there were in reality three streams into which the Euphrates was divided; the Nahar-Sares, or Mārsyah, the Nahar-Malcha, or royal river, and the original river, which ran through Babylon.

The erudite Bochart has fixed the site of the Garden of Eden near Babylon, above the confluence of the Tigris and the Euphrates; and Huet, bishop of Avranches, concurs in this opinion. Minsheu, who observes that whether paradise was in the earth or air, or whether it was the heaven itself, *non consentiunt cruditi*, refers to an anonymous MS. in the Biblioth. C. C. C. Oxon, wherein it is declared that it was near the Tigris. Professor Perizonius, of Leyden,† adverting to a passage in Tursellinus (*Histor. Epit.*) is of opinion that the probable site of the *Hortus Amœnissimus*, or Garden of Eden, had been where the *Sinus Persicus*, or Gulf of Ormus, now was; but at some time, whether at the general deluge or not was uncertain, had been absorbed, and become a part of the gulf; and that the regions stated in Scripture to be contiguous to the garden, were near that *Sinus*.

It would be tedious to particularize the various authorities by whom respectively the following places have been named as the site of paradise. The most current opinion is that it was situated in Mesopotamia, near Armenia, between the Euphrates and Tigris; others have placed it near the Caspian Sea; others in the Taprobane of the ancients, or Ceylon, where Adam's footmark is shown; some fix it in Sumatra; some in the Canaries, or Fortunate Isles; others in a country not named, situated under the equator; some persons suppose it was in the land of Canaan, Palestine, or the Holy Land; others in Armenia; others in Ethiopia; others near the Orontes and Chrysoroas in Syria; some place it upon a plain on Mount Taurus, near Mount Ararat; some say it was in America; some in a terrestrial world yet undiscovered; some conclude that it was on a mountain elevated into the upper region of the air, approaching the moon; others that it was situated upon the surface of the moon itself; and some assert that the garden was in heaven.

The question whether it is still in existence has agitated controversialists, who differ on this point almost as much as upon the other. Augustin‡ says: "*Esse paradysum illum fides Christiana non dubitat.*" Upon the strength of this remark some writers contend that the garden subsists in its original place, but that this place is so surrounded by mountains and precipices, that it is inaccessible. Of this sentiment is the anonymous author quoted by Minsheu, who says that Alexander the Great discovered the garden; he adds, that it is concealed because, if generally known, it would be filled with wealthy people, and there would be no room for the poor, who would not, however, be in a worse condition than they are at present. Some believe that the garden was destroyed by the deluge, which obliterated all traces of its existence; whilst others consider it to be the place whither Enoch and Elijah were transported, and where they are to abide until the coming of Anti-christ.§

* Anal. of Anc. Myth., iii. 279.

† See Gent. Mag., liv. 176.

‡ In Gen., i. viii. c. 3.

§ Morexi, viii. 66.

Errata. In pp. 296, 298, and 300, the letter נ (nun) has been erroneously substituted for ג (gimel) in the words נַג and נַחַרְמַלְכָּה. The error was not noticed until the sheet was printed.

EARLY TRAVELLERS, No. X.—ALEXANDER OF RHODES.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : Having heretofore forwarded to you for insertion in the *Asiatic Journal* occasional reviews of the works of early travellers in the east, which were scarce or curious, and therefore appeared likely to amuse your readers, I beg to renew my correspondence by sending an analysis of the travels of a French Jesuit, Father Alexander of Rhodes, chiefly in China, Cochin China, and Tonquin, from a scarce work in French.* I would premise, that where religion is not concerned, this reverend traveller shews himself to have been a judicious and sensible person ; and I have no doubt that his narrative contains facts which may be relied upon as authentic. Upon theological topics he is as little to be trusted as any other of his order.

Father Alexander left Rome in October 1618, and travelled overland to Lisbon, meeting nothing very remarkable in his way, if we except a rencontre with some Calvinists on the Rhone, who were his fellow travellers on board a barque. These Calvinists, he says, were very insolent ; they read aloud an heretical book containing a multitude of blasphemies against the sacred mysteries of the Catholic religion. The Jesuit undertook to refute their false doctrines, which so exasperated the protestants, he tells us, that they would have thrown him overboard if some Catholic passengers had not prevented them.

On the 4th April 1619 he sailed from Lisbon for Goa, in company with six Jesuits, three priests, and three students of philosophy. They doubled the Cape of Good Hope on the 20th July, and arrived at Goa on the 9th October. He gives a description of Goa, which I shall not repeat, but I cannot refrain from quoting a passage which affords an example of the father's good sense and discretion :—

There are still in the city and environs many Pagans, on whose conversion great labour is bestowed : but I cannot conceal two things which gave me great uneasiness whilst in this part, and which in my opinion tend not a little to confirm the obstinacy of these infidels, and concerning which, I confess, I have often had much trouble to satisfy them. It frequently happens that great honour and favour are manifested towards some of these natives whilst they are Pagans, but when baptized they are no longer regarded. Further : when they are converted, they are compelled to quit their country dress, which the Pagans use. It is impossible to conceive how offensive this is to them ; and I know not why a thing is exacted from them which our Lord doth not require, and which repels them from baptism and Paradise. For my own part, when in China, I vigorously opposed those who would oblige the new Christians to cut their long hair, without which they could not have walked about peaceably, or have been admitted into the society of their countrymen. I told them that the Gospel required them to separate errors from their mind, but not their long hair from their head.

One of the *amusements* of the Jesuits at Goa, was to perambulate the city in search of Pagan orphans, for whom an hospital was provided by the King of Portugal. They baptized these children (which was the condition of their admission) once a year, on the day of the conversion of St. Paul. The number baptized the year of our author's visit was six hundred !

After staying two years and a half in this part of India, our author sailed from Goa on the 12th April 1622, intending to proceed, on a religious mission, to Japan. In passing the pearl coast of Ceylon, the Jesuit relates an anecdote quite *professional*. He says that on the Tuticorin coast were found the finest

* Divers Volages du P. Alexandre de Rhodes en la Chine et autres Roiaumes de l'Orient. Paris, 1666.

finest pearls in the east; that the Jesuits had a handsome college at Tuticorin, subsequent to the visit of St. Francis Xavier, who “fished from perdition there so many souls, which are the true pearls in the crown of Jesus Christ;” that it happened, by some mischance, the Jesuits lost this house, and after the fathers had quitted it, not a single oyster was found in this part; that the King of Portugal, hearing of their expulsion, ordered the Jesuits to be restored to their college; whereupon the pearl-oysters immediately returned, “as if God had been pleased to declare, that so long as the fishers of souls were absent, no good pearl-fishery must be looked for on this coast.”

Ceylon was at this period possessed (its coasts, I mean) by the Portuguese, whose ardour to make converts to Christianity on the island is well known. Father Alexander attests the success of their exertions; he states, that in the year after the arrival of some Jesuits from Malabar at Jaffnapatam, then under the government of the zealous Don Philip de Oliveira, no less than 30,000 Pagans became proselytes in that province alone.

On his passage to Malacca, which he reached in July 1622, the Jesuit meets with an incident which is also related *professionally*. The vessel struck upon a sand-bank off a cape he calls Rachado, and became fast. All efforts to release her were vain; the pilot was in despair, and every one expected death. “Happily,” says the Father, “I had in my reliquary one of the hairs of the Holy Virgin; I took it, and fastening it to a long rope, I plunged it into the sea. A palpable miracle took place: scarcely had we repeated the *Pater* and *Ave Maria*, when our vessel, without the exertion of any person on board, after it had remained for a long time immoveable, rushed from the sand with extreme velocity, and was driven into the sea!”

After waiting nine months at Malacca, Father Alexander sailed for Macao, where he arrived safely, by the special interposition of St. Anthony of Padua, in May 1623.

The description which the Jesuit gives of China is necessarily meagre, as he went no farther than Canton. His details, however, are tolerably exact. He speaks of the manners of the Chinese, of the products of China (including tea*), and other topics connected with the people and the country, with the air and the accuracy of a man who had studied what he saw. In referring to the presumption and arrogance of the nation, he says: “they persuade themselves that China is every thing that is beautiful in the world; and they are astonished when they behold our *map-worlds*, in which their empire looks so small in comparison with the rest of the earth. Theirs are of a very different kind: in their charts the world is made square, and they place China in the middle (hence they call it *Chon-choe* [Chung-kwö], which means ‘kingdom of the middle’†); they represent the sea below, in which they scatter some small islands, one of which is Europe, another Africa, another Japan,” &c.‡ The want of the true religion amongst them is pathetically deplored by the Jesuit, who says, that from the data he obtained in China, he was enabled to calculate that, “at the very least, 5,000,000 of souls went to hell every year,” solely through their ignorance of the Gospel.

Being

* As much doubt prevails respecting the date of the common use of tea in Europe, Father Alexander may be regarded as an early authority on this subject. He wrote some years before Valentyn says that tea was unknown at Dort, and that the introduction of it by Vanden Brouke, and De Leonardis, was attempted in vain in Holland. Our author speaks of it as commonly imported by the Dutch. He says it was (1666) sold at Paris at thirty francs the pound; it cost (he adds) in China only from eight to ten sous. He has an entire chapter on the use of this article, which he calls *tay*. His account of the name of tea in China, of its culture, place of growth, &c. is perfectly correct.

† What would M. Klaproth say to this?

‡ The Chinese modern maps are far less absurd; we have seen some which are really tolerable.—Ed.

Being prevented from entering Japan, our Jesuit determined to proceed to Cochin China. This country had been but about fifty years independent of Tonquin, of which it was formerly a province. The reigning king of Cochin China, at this period, was the grandfather of the person who first established the independence of the kingdom, and who was the governor deputed by the King of Tonquin, his brother-in-law.

Christianity had taken pretty firm root in Cochin China at the period of our Jesuit's visit. He has given an interesting sketch of its first introduction there. The apostle of Cochin China, as he is called by our author, was Father Francisco Buzomi, a Jesuit of Naples, who laboured at the great work of conversion with great success, in spite of obstacles, for more than twenty years. The circumstance which gave rise to his mission was this: Don Fernando da Costa, a Portuguese nobleman, who visited Macao in 1614, had touched at Cochin China, and falling into company with the Jesuit missionaries, laid before them, from his own observations, strong grounds for thinking that they might effect the conversion of that kingdom. Father Buzomi, hearing the details, threw himself at the feet of the superior at Macao, and begged permission to go thither. His request was complied with; he left early in 1615, and arrived in Cochin China on the 18th January: he baptized almost immediately ten persons. His companion was a Portuguese Jesuit, named Diego Carvalho, who went afterwards to Japan, and there suffered martyrdom. The number of converts during the first year of Buzomi's ministration was 300. Next year he was joined by two indefatigable coadjutors from Macao, Fathers Francisco Barretti and Francisco de Pina, whose labours were in a short time crowned with such astonishing success, that it excited (according to our author) the malice of the devil, who stirred up enemies to accuse them of sorcery, and to charge them with ruining their country under the pretext of teaching the way to heaven. The fathers were in consequence expelled from their churches, and forced to retire into a desert. Father Buzomi had succeeded, however, in gaining the heart of the governor of Quinhone, a favourite of the King, who, when he heard of the Jesuits' usage, caused him to come to his palace, and treated him with great kindness. In 1618 Buzomi and Pina founded a new church in Quinhone; but here also they were exposed to the malice of the Pagans, who mutilated some idols and exposed them in public, taxing the Christians with this disrespect towards their gods. A communication to the court, however, secured the fathers from violence, and the King directed that the Jesuits and their converts should not be molested. In succeeding years, fresh labourers from Macao were despatched into the promising vineyard, and previous to the period when Father Alexander arrived there, Christianity had spread throughout the kingdom.

In 1624 the superiors at Macao appointed Father Gabriel de Mattos visitor of the Cochin Chinese mission, and nominated five other Jesuits from Europe to attend him, of whom our traveller was one. In nineteen hours after leaving Macao they landed in Cochin China, where they soon joined Father Pina, who had thoroughly acquired the language, which, Father Alexander says, when spoken by the natives, and especially by the women, appeared to him like the chirping (*gazouillement*) of birds: arising from this cause, namely, that the words, being monosyllabic, are distinguished only by a peculiarity of tone, or a sort of song: thus, he says, the word *dai* has twenty-three different meanings, according to the mode in which it is pronounced. Difficult as it was to acquire, our Jesuit learned to preach in that language within six months; and after his return to Europe he printed at Rome, under the auspices of the

Congræg. de Propag., a dictionary in Cochin Chinese, Latin, and Portuguese, accompanied by a grammar and a catechism.

In 1625, our Jesuit tells us, the Christian religion was preached in all the principal parts of Cochin China: amongst other respectable persons who were converted, was a woman of rank at court, who industriously patronized the Jesuits. Malevolent persons, however, took advantage of their ill policy (and which is condemned by our author) in forbidding any marks of respect to departed parents, in order to prejudice the mind of the King against the Christians. His Majesty pronounced the regulation of the Jesuits a barbarous law, which destroyed the filial affection implanted by nature in all hearts; and he commanded the fathers to retire to Faifoe, and all the native Christians to divest themselves of crosses and other insignia of their new religion. The edict went no further.

After he had been eighteen months in Cochin China, our Jesuit went on a mission to Tonquin, whither the first Christian missionary in that kingdom, Father Baldinoti, had proceeded from Macao in March 1626. This Jesuit was, however, ignorant of the language, and Father Alexander was directed to join him in order to obviate this defect; he arrived there in March 1627. For the wonders he saw in Tonquin, our author refers to a work which he published expressly on the subject. The tales previously told of this country in Europe, he observes, were wholly lies, which made a person who visited it laugh heartily at the gullibility of European readers. Tonquin (including Cochin China) was, he states, a province of China about 800 years before; but was rendered independent by the revolt of a chief, with whom the King of China at length made peace, on condition of receiving tribute once in three years. Its government was a monarchy; but the king, whose title was *Bua*, had no real power, which was vested in the *Chowa*, who, by an usurpation similar to that of the peishwas of the Mahrattas, had become the real sovereign. He received the obsequious homage of the people; had 50,000 troops at his command, armed with musket, lance, and scymetar; and 500 galleys.

Our reverend traveller remarked a custom amongst the Tonquinese, which induced him to think that the Christian (he should have said the Romish) religion had been known amongst them in times past. As soon as the children were born, he says, the parents marked, with charcoal or ink, a cross upon their foreheads, "to drive away the devil." Whether this might or might not have been the fact, the Jesuits succeeded well in their object: 200 were baptized in two months, including some grandees. Of the efficacy of these conversions I may be permitted to doubt, from a story related by the Jesuit respecting some criminals with whom he came in contact at the moment of execution. He prevailed upon one to submit to baptism, and ran about to find a little water, which he procured from a puddle, and threw upon the culprit just before his head was cut off: "I believe," says the Jesuit, "that his soul went strait to heaven; I ran instantly to the rest, but not one remained alive: these are impenetrable secrets of Providence!" Under such a compendious process of conversion, we cannot wonder at the father's statement, that during the first year of his labours in Tonquin he baptized 1,200, the next year 2,000, and the third year 3,500, including seventeen relatives of the king, and 200 idolatrous priests. Miracles, moreover, co-operated in the work. The Jesuit, prefacing his statement with a declaration that he is aware of the sin of relating false miracles, and in the most solemn manner obtesting the Deity, states that he and his catechists, by means of the cross, holy water, and relics alone, expelled devils, cured all sorts of disorders, gave sight to several who were blind,

blind, and *restored two persons to life!* One instance of the last-mentioned class of miracles is described with all its details, and affords a disgusting example of impudent imposture, or barefaced falsehood.

In such circumstances as these, it is not wonderful (though the Jesuit is surprised at it) that the people pronounced him a sorcerer, and represented that by merely breathing he could turn a man's brain. The King was alarmed; refused to admit him into his presence (lest his own brain should whirl), and, finally, in the year 1630, ordered him to depart the kingdom. He retired into Cochin China, and from thence proceeded to Macao.

Our Jesuit returned afterwards to the scene of his first labours, in Cochin China, whence the missionaries had been thrice expelled with many indignities. Father Alexander obtained re-admission by bribes, especially by corrupting the governor of Faifoe, who was a Japanese, and a determined enemy to Christianity. But a certain governor of Shaum forced him back again to Macao.

In the year 1640 he made a further attempt, and succeeded in landing at Turon, where he set about baptizing Pagans with such diligence, that the devil (according to the exact words of the Jesuit) informed the aforesaid governor of the proceeding, who forthwith came by stealth, and seized upon their crucifixes and images, which he burned. In the course of this visit, the Jesuit relates an anecdote which, he says, afforded him much pleasure to reflect upon:—

One day, when I had finished my sermon, a very sensible Pagan said: "how do you reconcile, father, what you said to-day with what you told us yesterday? Our soul, you tell us, has no other origin than the hand of God, and our parents contribute nothing to its existence; how then can it be infected by the sin of him who is not answerable for its being? Amongst us are found instances of children being declared base, because they had criminal fathers; but here, according to your statement, our soul has no father but God; and nevertheless Adam, who is nothing to it, has communicated to it the contagion of his crime." I was overjoyed to hear from the mouth of a Cochin Chinese this doubt, which heretofore gave some perplexity to St. Augustine, the greatest of doctors. I took care not to answer with the subtleties of the schools, which would have embarrassed the inquirer's mind; I employed a familiar comparison, which satisfied him. "If you have in your hands," I observed, "a beautiful pearl, remarkably white and clear, which falls by accident into the mud, it becomes foul, although your hands have contributed no filth to it; but if you wash it, then it recovers its former beauty and lustre. Our soul is like a very precious pearl; it proceeds spotless from the hands of God, but it falls into a body where it is sullied, because it is no longer a soul alone, but a man, who has sprung from Adam, and thereby it becomes foul. But when it is washed in the waters of baptism, all this filth disappears: it becomes clear and bright as the sun." This illustration satisfied all the company who heard it.

Father Alexander went to Cochin China from the Philippines, of which islands he gives some account, which is devoid of interest. He returned to Cochin China in 1642, and tried with success the experiment of a bribe upon his old enemy the governor of Shaum, who thenceforward left him in peace; but the king obliged him to depart next year. He returned for the fifth and last time in 1644. His record of this visit is filled with details of the numerous conversions and the persecutions of the church and of himself in this country. The Jesuit was at length condemned by the King to lose his head, but a friend prevailed upon his Majesty to retract his sentence: this service the perverse Jesuit stigmatizes as "a piece of cruelty, worthy of his greatest enemy;" he was afflicted, he says, at the news of his exemption from death; and he adds,
"I do

"I do not accuse so much the magistrate (his friend), who wished to render me a service, as my criminal life, as the cause for which God considered me unworthy to die upon this occasion." He was banished from the country, and many of the new converts were indulged with the boon of martyrdom for which their teacher sighed in vain.

The remainder of the Jesuit's narrative relates to his journey homewards, in the course of which he was made prisoner by the Dutch at Jacatra, in Java, and incurred as much risk from these Calvinists as amongst the idolaters of Cochin China. When he was released from their hands he visited Bantam, an English factory, and it is gratifying as well as amusing to observe the different manner in which the Jesuit speaks of the English governor:—

I here found a treatment very different from that which I experienced from the Hollanders. Mr. Aaron Becza (Beckett), Governor-general for the English in India, received me with all the kindness I could expect even from a most zealous Catholic. He made me sit at his table, where he treated me so courteously, that I entertained a suspicion that he was really a Catholic; until, one day, at table, he gave me pretty plainly to understand by his discourse that he was involved in the common misfortune of that unhappy nation, which after being once the delight of genuine piety, has for some time past lost that which rendered her for so many ages venerable to other nations!

This is not the only tribute he pays to the conduct of our countrymen at that period of exasperation. "They continued," he subsequently says, "to show me civilities, not only beyond my hope, but my desire."

He visited several parts of the east on his return; but they were superficially seen and are hastily described; and he reached Rome on the 27th June 1649.

I am, Sir, &c.

D. N. G.

THE BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER.

WE noticed some time ago the failure of an attempt to proceed along the Brahmaputra in an easterly direction, and that it was proposed to repeat the undertaking at a more favourable opportunity.* In the mean time, circumstances having occurred which were considered propitious to a northerly excursion along the Dihong, towards the country of the Bor Abors, this journey, we understand, has been accomplished by Lieuts. Wilcox and Burlton. The result has not satisfactorily solved the great problem of the connexion of any of the rivers of Asam with the San-po, the advance to a sufficient distance having been impeded by the unwillingness or inability of the hill tribes to give the necessary assistance; but we should think little doubt can remain of the identity of that river with the Dihong, unless the geography of the Lamas is wholly erroneous. The travellers ascended the Dihong to the village of Pashee, two days' journey beyond the point reached by Captain Bedford, in his journey up the same river.† The people of the villages along their route offered no interruption to their progress, but expostulated with them on the toil and danger to which they exposed themselves, declined supplying them with guides, and with such information as they furnished deceived and misdirected them. Under these circumstances, they found the natural difficulties of the route insuperable. The banks of the river rose perpendicularly from the water's edge, and were surmounted by steep hills covered with thick jungle, through which it was impossible to cut a path. Having proceeded, in a small canoe, a few miles up the river, beyond the point where a path along shore became

* See p. 43.

† See *Asiat. Journ.*, vol. xxii. p. 170.

became impracticable, the travellers were stopped by a formidable rapid, which it would have been difficult to ascend and dangerous to return by. On climbing up the rock, an unbroken reach of water was observed running for some distance in a westerly direction: according to native information, it follows this course for twenty miles, and then runs as far north. The path to the Bor Abor country goes directly to the north, and consequently leaves the river at this point. The width of the stream is here reduced to 100 yards, and the current is slow; but as no considerable branch had joined the Dihong on the route, all the water poured by it into the Brahmaputra, in quantity more than double the contents of the latter, must be comprised in this channel. The source of the stream is said to be remote. A tribe called the Simongs are in the immediate neighbourhood of the point reached, and it is supposed that the country of the Lamas is next to theirs.

The view from the Pashce village is described as most magnificent, comprehending the course of the Brahmaputra from the hills as far as Seesee, its junction with the Dihong, the course of the Koondul and other streams, and lofty ranges of mountains, including the snowy mountains behind the Suddya Peak, and the snowy range to the south-east, at least 150 miles remote.

By information received from the merchants of Bhot and Lhassa, the city of Lhassa lies to the south of a large river, which is not the case in the map of Du Halde, who places it thirty miles to the north, on the banks of the Kaltyu. According to Stewart, however (*Annual Register*, 1788), Lassa is on the banks of the San-po. This position is not wholly incompatible with Turner's account, although not derivable from it. He says, he saw from the rock of Teshoo Lomboo the Erechombo, or Brahmaputra, washing its northern base, running to the east, in a wide bed and many channels. From his own apartment looking south, he had the road to Lhassa on his left, or to the west, and it is possible, therefore, that the river may cross the road, and thus run south of Lhassa. We wish, however, we had some latitudes and longitudes on which we could depend; we should then be better able to judge how far the Dihong is likely to be connected with the San-po, or how far Du Halde's map is reconcilable with other standards. We may presume the following verifications are allowable with Turner:—

Shigatzee...N. 29° 6'...E. 89° 2'	Jikse .....N. 29° 10'...E. 89°
Painom ...N. 28° 58'...E. 89° 17'	Painam ...N. 28° 50'... ..
Jhansu.....N. 28° 48'...E. 89° 32'	Chianse ...N. 28° 40'... ..

The latitudes and longitudes, therefore, are much the same, and encourage us to put some trust in the latter, which are Du Halde's or D'Anville's.

The San-po is lost, in the latter, in lat. 26° 20', and long. 113° 20' E. from Ferro—or 95° 30': Hamilton says about 96°, but his map and Rennel's give 95° 20'. The Omchu disappears in 27°, and long. 93° 50', but, as we observed on a former occasion, the oblique direction it follows to the S.E. renders it probable that it joins the San-po. Now, we understand that the former survey of the Dihong terminated in lat. 28° 2', and long. 95° 22'; and the present, being extended two days further, in a westerly direction chiefly, may have ascended to about 28° 6', and long. 95° 3'. In either case, however, we must be very close upon the San-po, if not actually in it, and the latter must be the case if Du Halde's positions are not much farther wrong than in the example we have given from Turner. The course of the Om-chu and San-po, from the west and north, respectively, will explain the accounts given by the natives of the western and northern reaches of the Dihong.*

* Calcutta Gov. Gaz., Feb. 13.

LEGISLATURE OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR : The *Asiatic Journal* being celebrated for the impartiality with which it admits letters from opposite parties, bearing against, as well as for, any new question of political, public, or private interest, I feel confident you will not refuse the following observations a page or two, however they may clash with your own sentiments or those of your Australian friends. Different men view the same subject with very different ideas, for want of equal knowledge ; it is, therefore, useful to publish discordant opinions, and to extract the truth from the whole. Having lived under a representative and also under a military government, as well as the petitioners to whom I shall presently refer, I consider myself not entirely without experience on the subject of this letter, although I hold an opinion decidedly contrary to theirs.

I perceive with extreme regret that it is the intention of some of the principal inhabitants of New South Wales to petition Parliament for a House of Assembly ! What can a country so thinly peopled (barely 55,000) want with a House of Assembly, when, from their own acknowledgment and even vaunt,* an almost uninterrupted series of prosperity has attended the colony under its present form of government ? These are *early days* for a community of only forty years' standing to dream of independence ; and, to say the least, it is premature to require a senate where there are no cities, and only two inconsiderable towns, for the senators to come from : these two towns ought only to furnish two representatives each, to sit in such House of Assembly, being the ratio allowed to towns of a similar population in the Mother Country. What can so small a community want with a House of Assembly, consisting as it does, almost wholly, of farmers, scattered over an immense and straggling extent of coast and country ; separated from each other, and without an intermixture of extensive manufacturing towns and numerous trades, whose multifarious and varied interests might probably, with good reason, require representatives at the seat of government as in England ? A Senate, or House of Assembly, would only drag the farmers, owners, and occupiers of land from their several estates, at a great expense, and a grievous waste of time, leaving their farms to be managed (or robbed) by agents.

I have good reasons for believing it is not the Australian public in general who desire a House of Assembly, but only a few of the wealthy and proud, impatient of the necessary and wholesome regulations of a young colony, and of those few restraints which hinder them from increasing their fortunes faster than they already do, impatient too of the vice-regency of one man, little superior to themselves as to rank, aided by a council, by which their pride feels wounded. The colonial department at home is conducted on the most liberal plan in every thing regarding the distant, and particularly the new, settlements, nor can the colonies with any justice find room for complaint. I would ask these would-be senators this question : whether, in case of a war with a maritime power, they are in a condition to defend themselves ? They are not, nor will they even in another forty years ; we must, therefore, supply them with troops, a navy, &c. ; and while we are obliged to do this, let them not talk of legislating for themselves. The Australians are wholly dependent on the Mother Country, I will not say for support, but certainly for defence ;

* *Vide* some of the boasting paragraphs in the Sydney newspapers, the organ of the public.

defence; for should we leave their seas without armed ships in time of war, an enemy could make a descent on any part of their coast, and spread ruin and devastation wherever he pleased. "We have always thought it a gross blunder in politics to allow the existence of such estate as the House of Assembly in any colony; they are never-ceasing sources of contention and irritation; and they do no good either towards promoting the interests or supporting the liberties of the colonists. They are mere matters of jobbing, by which some intriguers or spouters contrive to obtain money, or that sort of local notoriety which they imagine to be fame." As an oriental traveller, and one who has seen the happiness of a people prospering under military law (the excellent military law of Christian Britain), administered by generous and almost universally beloved and respected officers, I solemnly advise my brother subjects the Australians to be contented with their present form of government; under which, it cannot be denied, they have thriven in an unprecedented degree. Their governors have felt an individual pride and interest in extending their country, in fitting out expeditions for interior discovery, in forwarding science, rewarding virtue and industry, and in planning and executing continual improvements in the colony; but establish a House of Assembly, and farewell from that moment to any future discoveries, to any new towns and villages or settlements, to any more improvements at home round Sydney; from that moment the governor is paralyzed with restrictions which prevent him from fostering or exciting any more improvements; he can take no pride or gratification in setting on foot any new enterprise—the honour will not be his; and as to the members of the House, they will think more of scraping gold together than of science, improvements, or country; all will be squabbling and useless talking, contention, and thwarting. And, finally, the mania of disgust and discontent will infect even the back settlers; and New South Wales, instead of being the head-quarters of peace and happiness, like its parent, will become the den of anarchy, and a terror to new emigrants.

I wish the Australian public would reflect with a little more fairness on the surprising prosperity of their country (acknowledged at their thirty-ninth anniversary), on the undeniable fact of the paternal system of government under which they have grown to be what they are, and on what they may arrive at under the same moderate government, persevering in improvements, and extending settlements for another forty years. The rich I would advise not to tantalize themselves with visions of the pleasures of taxing themselves; but let them assist in forming two exploring parties, to penetrate the distant interior of New Holland, or to circumvent the supposed interior sea, and make surveys of its unknown western shores, which is to this day a surprising enigma, and for the solution of which we are waiting in the utmost impatience. Immense mountains in the interior may give birth to streams containing gold-dust as plentiful as those of South America and Africa, for the climates and latitudes are the same. But instead of seconding the liberal views of Government, in promoting and encouraging improvements, in getting up fresh expeditions for scientific and geographical discovery, the fiend ambition has been rearing its grim head, watching the opportunity to disturb the public peace; and to plunge an improving and happy country into an abyss of political dissensions.

Since writing the foregoing I have seen some passages of the Sydney petition, one of which notices the protection they have received from the press, &c. But as to the liberty of the press, which they boast "has been the means of detecting and preventing numberless abuses and oppressions," there have been

abuses or oppressions but in the discontented and heated imaginations of the getters-up of the petition, nor has any been detected, if we have a right to believe contrary accounts. This is too much like the style of the "Account of New South Wales," by Mr. Wentworth, which contains many complaints and accusations, against individuals as well as departments, which have been openly and flatly contradicted by other writers of as good veracity as Mr. W.*

The Australians want to tax themselves instead of being taxed by Government; and I dare to predict, that were they to gain the boon of a House of Assembly, they would not tax themselves with one penny less than they pay at present: such is the well known inconsistency of human nature! They talk also of the enormity of the sum of £60,000 a year taxes, from a free population of 35,000, which is indeed a very small sum comparing all the circumstances of the present period and those of the year 1777. This mighty sum of £60,000 is, averaged among their free population, less than £2 per head; and they take special care not to mention that it has been spent in their own country. They are unjust enough to overlook the fine roads, useful bridges, handsome durable public buildings, and the innumerable other improvements which their Government has performed with part of the money every year, besides the respectable support of their government—an object in which there is no nation or body of people which does not take some pride in.

Again, it is ludicrous to see these petitioners make a merit of employing and feeding the convicts, which is at trifling cost compared with the high wages of free labour if they could not have obtained convicts, whose subsistence is grown upon and supplied from their own estates, which makes it fall still lighter.

They talk of disfranchisements, and yet, do they not know that there are several places in England, of as great population as New South Wales, which are not represented in Parliament? It will be time enough for the Australians to be allowed to tax themselves when these places have gained their franchise. Their assertion that "fresh devices have been in agitation, and they fear are not yet abandoned, to increase the taxes," is too ridiculous to need any further observation or comment. However, after all, should they obtain a House of Representatives, I hope they will be tied down to the ancient usages of the Mother Country, and not be allowed to send more than two members for the town of Sydney, one for Hobart, and one for the distant population; total four, which would be after the ratio of representation in England, and more than this they have no right to: and then we should see what gigantic improvements and discoveries, what sickening display of eloquence, these representatives would exhibit in their new estate, the Senate House.

I will venture to say, that such egotistical, selfish, and exclusive ideas as the petition contains, were never put forth to the world before, by any community of men; and it must raise the just blush of shame, and feeling of self-abasement, in those who have promoted it, when cooler and more patriotic and generous sentiments take the place of avarice and passion.

I am, Sir, &c.

T. I. M.

* * * We desire not to be considered responsible for the opinions contained in this letter.

* *vide* Mr. Marsden's reply to Mr. Wentworth, which was bought up with such avidity, that a copy of it could not be obtained in a very short space of time after its publication.

BELZONI.

WE are not aware that the English public possesses any particular account of the parentage and history of Belzoni, whose services to science (in the cause of which he fell a sacrifice), and whose contributions to the magnificent collection of Egyptian antiquities in this country, entitle him to be ranked amongst those meritorious individuals to whom England is seldom backward to testify her gratitude.

At his native city, Padua, it appears from the *Milan Gazette*, the dedication of a medallion of the traveller has lately been celebrated by a sort of fête, in the presence of the magistrates and a large concourse of the people, who listened with delight to an oration wherein the most splendid achievements of this enterprising traveller were related, accompanied by some details of his private life.

A full biographical account of Belzoni has issued from the pen of M. Depping, intended for publication in his forthcoming *Annuaire Nécrologique* for 1826; and we shall lay before our readers an abstract of the most interesting portions of this article from a French periodical work.*

M. Depping relates, in an agreeable manner, the commencement of his acquaintance with Belzoni. "One day in the autumn of 1821, I saw a man of colossal stature, formed like a Hercules, enter my house, touching the top of the doorway with his head. His shoulders were broad, his temples were overshadowed with hair; his eyes were small, his physiognomy was gentle, and there was nothing intimidating in his aspect. He carried a quarto volume under his arm, and was accompanied by Galignani, the bookseller. I guessed he was an author; but I confess I never had seen one before of that size: if the Patagonians wrote, probably some examples of such authors might be found amongst them. This Hercules explained to me, in a voice as gentle as his look, the object of his visit. He opened the quarto, showed me the name of "Belzoni" upon the title-page, and told me that, having been thrown, after a variety of adventures, into Egypt and Nubia, he had made some observations and important discoveries; that he was about to print his account of them in London, and wished that a French translation should appear at the same time; and that if I would undertake this translation, Galignani would print it forthwith at Paris." This introduction led to a more intimate acquaintance between the parties; and M. Depping thence learned the history of this extraordinary person, who, he observes, was born a traveller, as others are born poets.

Belzoni was the son of a poor barber of Padua, who had, unfortunately, more children than means; and who was able to bequeath to his son Giovanni Battista, born in 1778, nothing but his humble calling. Young Belzoni worked in his father's shop; but he soon became disgusted with this employment, and like Gil Blas, wished to see the world, and especially Rome, from whence his family originally came. He was thirteen, however, before he had seen any other place than Padua; but one day his parents took all their children, for a recreation, to the Hermitage of Monte Ortono, near the warm springs of Albano. The charming and picturesque view of this country delighted young Belzoni, who, on his return to Padua, felt such an unconquerable aversion to his imprisonment in a wretched barber's shop, that, early the ensuing

* The Philosophical and Literary Journal of Paris, called *Le Globe*, for July 24.

ensuing morning, he left his paternal roof, accompanied by his brother Antonio, and set off for the Hermitage. On their way they fell in with a *vetturino*, who asked them if they would ride in his vehicle to Ferrara? Being fatigued, and moreover overjoyed at the prospect of travelling so far, the simple lads mounted the carriage, and were accordingly conveyed to Ferrara. Here the *vetturino* demanded his fare; and the travellers having no money, he took off some of their clothes, which he sold, and left them in that plight.

Instead of being discouraged by this misfortune, young Belzoni was rejoiced at being so near Rome, and walked gaily with his brother along the high road, where some travellers took them into their carriages, and gave them money. On reaching the Appenines, Giovanni was delighted; but little Antonio sat himself upon a rock, cried bitterly after his father and mother, and refused to proceed any further. Our traveller was therefore obliged to abandon his object, and return with his brother to their father's house.

Three years afterwards, however, Giovanni, with another companion, succeeded in reaching the city of the Tiber. There, it is said, he studied hydraulics, and it is certain that he made some public exhibitions in the art; but M. Depping doubts if Belzoni regularly studied hydraulics, or applied himself seriously to any art or science whatsoever. "He had a ready genius (*esprit ouvert*); like most of his countrymen who emigrate, he knew how to create resources, no matter what; and he had a certain aptitude at all kinds of occupations and undertakings." He appears, notwithstanding, to have been hard pressed, for, in order to keep himself from actual starvation, he turned monk.

This life was, however, soon displeasing; and he had become weary of the monastic life when, at the commencement of the revolution, the French troops entered Rome and established a sort of republic there: Belzoni availed himself instantly of the liberty they proclaimed.*

He returned to Padua, but not knowing what to do, he again left his native place in 1800, and directed his steps to Holland. He found the Dutch, however, better acquainted with hydraulics than himself; and in the course of a year he returned to Italy. In 1803 he arrived in England. His colossal figure had then developed itself, and he attracted attention wheresoever he appeared: his strength corresponded with his size. He married an Englishwoman;† but he was without fortune and without profession. Belzoni, at length, determined to levy a tax upon the curiosity manifested by the English people to see him, and to exhibit throughout Great Britain hydraulic experiments and feats of muscular strength: he was able to support and carry twenty men.

This expedient soon failed: the public were speedily satiated with these exhibitions, and Belzoni found himself obliged to seek his fortune elsewhere. In 1812 he went with his wife to Portugal, and upon his arrival at Lisbon he applied to the manager of the theatre San Carlos, who conceived the happy idea of putting him into the character of *Samson*, in the pantomimic ballet of that name. The Jewish Hercules was never so well portrayed before. Belzoni drew crowded houses during a whole Lent by his prodigies of strength. At the close of the season, having nothing to do, he proceeded to Madrid, where he also played *Samson*. This resource deserting him, he embarked for Malta, having now, probably, conceived the design of pushing his fortunes in Egypt, where many of his countrymen had been successful. He offered his services, whilst at Malta, to Ismael Gibraltar, the agent of the Pacha of Egypt,

* Here occurs a blank in the original; a passage having been expunged by the censors of the press.

† Mrs. Belzoni is a native of Ireland.

Egypt, and having mentioned his knowledge of hydraulics, he was urged by the agent to proceed to Egypt, where he might be employed (but nothing positive was stipulated) in constructing an hydraulic machine in the gardens of the Viceroy. Belzoni consented to go, with his wife and an Irish boy. It was a desperate resource; but he had no other choice than to try his fortune in Egypt.

The events which occurred upon this visit to Egypt are minutely related by him in the account of his travels. His reception was not encouraging: he found the plague at Alexandria; he was wounded by a Turk at Cairo; the troops of the Pacha revolted, and he was obliged to keep in doors to avoid being killed. The viceroy, however, determined to employ Belzoni in constructing an hydraulic engine for watering his pleasure gardens on the Nile; and the engineer completed his work, though he had never constructed a machine of any size before. Unfortunately, the Pacha made fifteen men enter the great wheel, along with the Irish lad, to ascertain the effect their united force would produce; the men, as soon as the machine was in motion, leaped out; the Irish boy had his thigh broken, and Belzoni's strength alone could stop the rapid whirl of the machine.

His dependence upon the Pacha being lost, Belzoni was again without resource. At this juncture, the English and French consuls, Messrs. Salt and Drovetti, were busy in prosecuting researches and investigations amongst the antiquities on the banks of the Nile. The Italians then in Egypt, who excelled in these pursuits, entered into the service of one or other of these consuls. Belzoni concluded an engagement with Mr. Salt to convey to Alexandria the enormous colossal bust of the younger Memnon, which lay half-buried in the sand near Thebes. Here a new career, and in some measure a new profession, opened to our traveller, who, habited like a Turk, assembled the peasants, and set them to work with all the gravity of a *cadi* or an *aga*. It is even said that he was in the habit of inflicting corporal punishment upon them. A man of Belzoni's size, possessing a firman, plenty of money, and a cudgel, might very well be an object of terror to the Egyptian fellahs. He succeeded in transporting the gigantic monument to Alexandria, and it now enriches the collection in the British Museum.

The natural ardour of the Paduan traveller became excited by this new pursuit; he visited temples, lived with the Arabs amongst the catacombs, and ransacked the mummies, whence he became familiar with many curious particulars respecting these antiquities. He made a large collection, probably on account of Mr. Salt, of papyri, tools, idols, and other articles, which he has omitted to enumerate, because he had to describe objects of much greater importance, which, but for him, might have remained long, or perhaps for ever, unknown.

The next undertaking of Belzoni was the expedition to Nubia, at the suggestion of Mr. Salt, to extricate from the sand and expose to view the beautiful temple of Ipsambul: an undertaking far more difficult than that of transporting the bust of Memnon. Belzoni had to manage a semi-savage race, governed by avaricious chiefs; to conciliate their good opinion, or to overcome their bad intentions by promises of money. He had to engage them to work, and moreover to make them comprehend his object, which these barbarians are scarcely able to do, as they conceive that every European, who explores ancient relics, is incited by the hope of finding concealed treasure. All these obstacles he overcame, and had the honour of being the first to enter this magnificent edifice, consecrated perhaps to the glory of the great Sesostris.

“Should

"Should the sands again bury this curious monument," says M. Depping, "as they have buried a great number of the architectural remains of ancient Egypt, we shall at least possess, thanks to the labours of Belzoni and his successors, faithful designs of this important work."

No sooner had he returned from Upper Egypt, than he set out, provided with funds by Mr. Salt, to explore the valley of Beban-el-Maluk, where, by means of the skill and tact he had acquired since his experience in Egypt, he succeeded in discovering the celebrated tomb and alabaster sarcophagus. The latter he brought away;* the figures and inscriptions in the tomb, of which the number was vast, he copied faithfully, with the aid of Ricci, his countryman, and took impressions of some of the groups in paste. Hence he was enabled to exhibit in Europe a fac-simile of this remarkable object. The details of these matters have been so recently before the public that we forbear quoting them from M. Depping's memoir.

Belzoni returned to Cairo, and finding that Capt. Caviglia, an Italian employed by Mr. Salt, had, by digging at the foot of the pyramids, revealed a subterranean temple at the foot of the greatest of these enormous masses of stone, proceeded to the place, and upon examining the second pyramid, that of Cephrenes, conceived the possibility of finding an opening in it. In short, he discovered the narrow passage, which conducted him into the interior of the pyramid, and to the sepulchral chamber, where he found a sarcophagus containing some bones of an ox; a discovery which left no doubt as to the destination of this pyramid, and satisfactorily disproved the assertion of Herodotus, that it was not designed for a tomb. The skull of an ox has subsequently been found in one of the pyramids of Saccara.

Belzoni's discovery made great noise at Cairo; strangers of all nations flocked to visit the interior of a pyramid which had been closed for ages. Belzoni wrote his name in large characters in the sepulchral chamber, in which there was an Arabic inscription left by the Musulmans, who had penetrated thither six centuries before.

He next conveyed down the Nile an obelisk from the isle of Philæ; and removed from a royal tomb at Thebes, with great difficulty, the lid of a sarcophagus, composed of an enormous piece of red granite, on which is sculptured the royal personage whose mummy was deposited in the sarcophagus. Belzoni made a present of this relic to the University of Cambridge: the sarcophagus itself is supposed to be amongst the collection of Egyptian antiquities sold by Mr. Salt to the King of France.

After several minor services rendered to science in Egypt, Belzoni, who complained bitterly of the conduct of the French consul, Drovetti, and his myrmidons, two of whom, he says, wished to assassinate him, determined to withdraw from this scene of broils; he embarked accordingly in September 1819 for Europe, and returned in the first instance to his native place, from whence he had been absent twenty years.

"He presented himself to his countrymen no longer as a dealer in antiques or an itinerant natural philosopher: preceded by the renown which his discoveries had procured for him, and celebrated by the journals of every country in Europe, Belzoni entered Padua with the character of a celebrated traveller and antiquary. He was enabled to make a present to his native city which attested the results of his researches in Egypt; it consisted of two lion-headed statues in granite. They have been placed in the hall of justice, and the

* It is now in the possession of Mr. Soane.

the municipal authorities, in order to honour and reward a citizen whose labours confer a reputation upon the city, caused a medal to be struck bearing his name and recording his present. The chief magistrate of Padua transmitted to Belzoni one of these medals in gold, accompanied by a letter expressive of the gratitude of his fellow-citizens.

Padua was, however, too limited a theatre for the active and enterprising genius of Belzoni; and he soon revisited England, where his exploits had excited a degree of enthusiasm in his favour which secured him a very flattering reception. Great impatience was felt for the publication of his travels and discoveries, which appeared at the close of the year 1820. "As soon as the work was printed in England," continues M. Depping, "Belzoni came to Paris, as I have already mentioned, in order to bring out a French translation nearly at the same time as the English original would appear. I executed this translation in about two months; the sheets, as they came from the press, were sent to Belzoni; I added some notes and illustrations, partly borrowed from the works of other travellers, especially that of the learned Burckhardt, which had just then appeared. I abridged the account of the journey of Mrs. Belzoni, which is subjoined to the travels of her husband, and which, in the original, contains many frivolous particulars (*choses insignifiantes*). I ought not to conceal the fact, that my performance provoked a correspondence on Belzoni's part, written in a severe and sometimes very rude style. Following the advice of some sensible persons, I had suffered the invectives of the author against the Frenchmen with whom he had transactions in Egypt to remain; but I had occasionally moderated such expressions as were a little too harsh, and avoided the frequent reiteration of these invectives, which, so far from informing the reader, could not fail to weary him. Belzoni, who had probably become peevish and jealous in consequence of his disputes in Egypt, fancied he perceived in these alterations, and in the explanatory notes I added, a design to injure his reputation, and to deteriorate his merit in the eyes of Frenchmen. In the sequel, however, he was mollified, and he transmitted the sheets of my translation into Italy, in order that the Italian translation might be conformable thereto: the editors of the latter, the brothers Sonsogno, of Milan, state, in their advertisement, the reasons which induced them to prefer the French translation to the original, as the basis of theirs."

The success which attended the publication of this work in England was much greater than it met with in France; the causes of this comparative indifference in the latter country are easily assigned. The study of Egyptian antiquities was not so general there as at present; the work was written in a simple, inartificial and unpretending style, and it contained passages galling to French feelings. Soon after the publication of his travels, he constructed a fac-simile of the royal tomb he had discovered at Beban-el-Maluk, which he exhibited at London, and afterwards at Paris.

A taste for travel had taken such entire possession of Belzoni, that he now impatiently sought some other dangerous enterprize in which he might distinguish himself. He wished that his undertaking, whatever it was, should be to the benefit, and at the expense, of England, his adopted country. It appears, however, that his restlessness led him to endeavour to obtain from other governments some mission to the unknown countries of Asia and Africa. He went to Paris to present his work to the King of France; he proceeded subsequently to Russia, on his journey to which he probably received proposals from England, since he returned suddenly thither by the way of Stockholm and Copenhagen. Mr. Feldborg, a Danish author, has given some particulars respecting

respecting Belzoni's visit to the latter city. Amongst other things, he relates that Belzoni was present at a Danish play, not a word of which he understood. He was asked what pleasure he could possibly find in it; to which he returned this sensible reply: "In every country I traverse, I love to mingle with a large body of the people, and it is very seldom that I do not carry from such a scene some ideas of the national character."

Upon his arrival in England in 1822, he made arrangements for a new expedition far more hazardous than the preceding, and which, had it been crowned with success, would have imparted a still higher degree of lustre to his name. This was an attempt to penetrate into the interior of Africa, isolated by sandy deserts, and defended by a destructive climate. No man was better qualified for the attempt than Belzoni: robust, active, and enterprising, with a figure capable of impressing barbarians with respect, and accustomed to the climate of Africa. His plan was more vast than any preceding traveller had projected: he proposed to enter Africa by the north, and proceed as far as Timbuctoo, thence to direct his steps to Sennaar, enter the upper part of Nubia, and descend into Egypt, the scene of his early exploits.

He arrived at Gibraltar towards the end of 1822, and embarked again immediately for Tangiers. The Emperor of Morocco invited him to Fez: Belzoni proceeded thither, and was well received by the Emperor and his prime minister. A caravan was to set out for Timbuctoo in a few weeks; Belzoni obtained leave to accompany it. Unfortunately some unexplained event put a stop to this promising project. The account Belzoni gave in his letters was, that he had been the victim of an intrigue of certain agents, who prostituted their authority to wreak their vengeance on an unprotected stranger who scorned to cringe to them. This visit to Fez was dearly purchased: Belzoni sacrificed five months and a thousand pounds spent in bribes to the Emperor and his ministers. He was obliged to return to Gibraltar, where he formed a new plan of proceedings: instead of penetrating Africa by the north, he determined to land upon the coast of Guinea, and thence proceed to Timbuctoo and explore the sources of the Niger. He sailed for Madeira and the Canaries, and got conveyed to Cape Coast Castle, which he left for the Bight of Benin in October 1823. At Benin he was presented, dressed like a Moor, and with a long beard, to the King as an African of the interior, who had been educated in England and wished to return to his family by Haoussa, distant twenty-five days. The King promised him a guide thither; but a dysentery, which had attacked even the robust constitution of Belzoni, now made such rapid progress, that he requested to be conveyed on board an English vessel on the coast, in hopes that the sea-air would restore him. It was of no avail; on his arrival at Gato he became delirious, and expired the next day, December 3, 1823.

THE REVENUES OF INDIA.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: It having frequently been asserted, by the opponents to an enlarged policy in the administration of the revenues of British India, that if a temporary sacrifice is made of any portion of the land revenue, with a view to an amelioration of the condition of the people and the encouragement of internal commerce, that such sacrifice could not be made good by any other mode of taxation; I was anxious, on perusing the accounts detailed in pages 58—61 of your July number, to shew that the land-revenue did not form so large a proportion of the whole revenue as is generally supposed. I find, however, that the salt revenue, customs or sayer, and other branches of extra revenue in the Ceded and Conquered Provinces under Bengal, are not stated separately from the land-revenue.* Taking the accounts as they appear, the result is that the extra branches of revenue are nearly equal to a third of the whole revenue, viz.

		Current Rupees.
Total revenue received by the Bengal Government in 1824-25		13,47,91,925
<i>Extra Revenue.</i>		
Mint duties, Post-office revenue, stamp duties, and judicial fees	30,73,306	
Customs in Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa	40,49,871	
Marine receipts	2,68,016	
Salt monopoly	2,13,83,957	
Opium ditto	1,51,68,201	
	<u>4,08,70,045</u>	
		4,39,43,351
<i>Land Revenue.</i>		
Land and Sayer revenues, Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa	3,76,34,964	
Land revenues from Benares, Ceded and Conquered Provinces	5,32,13,610	
	<u>9,08,48,574</u>	
		13,47,91,925

The very large amount of the Judicial charges in India has been a subject of much animadversion. If the accounts referred to exhibit the whole amount of judicial charges in Bengal, including the expenses of the King's Court

* They are blended in the official statement; but a separate account of the stamp duties, customs, and judicial revenues, is given in another statement, which for the year 1824-25 are as follow:

	Revenues.	Charges.
Stamp duties in Lower Provinces	C. Rs. 16,32,134	6,40,294
— in Western Provinces, included in Ceded and Conquered ..	6,64,456	6,71,934
Customs in Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa	40,49,871	1,21,758
— in Benares	8,25,047	1,81,890
— in Oude	8,78,953	2,12,230
— in Conquered Provinces	22,54,371	59,34,290
Judicial in Bengal, &c. (including Supreme Court)	6,03,469	9,09,942
— in Benares	17,020	19,41,990
— in Oude	47,744	10,45,877
— in Conquered Provinces	13,673	

Court at Calcutta,* those charges, being not quite sixty lacs of rupees, do not amount to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on thirteen crore and a half of revenue.

I am, Sir, &c.

* The judicial charges of Bengal, in our statement, include the expenses of the King's Court. These charges for the year 1824-25 consist of the following items, *viz.* Supreme Court of Judicature, and law charges incidental to its establishment, C. Rs. 4,96,522; charges of the Sudder and Zillah Courts and Police establishment in Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, C. Rs. 54,37,750; total, C. Rs. 59,34,200, or £593,421.—The total gross revenue of India (excluding Saint Helena) in the year 1824-25, amounts to £20,750,183: the gross judicial charges, without deducting fees, fines, &c., throughout India, including the charges for the Supreme Courts at the three presidencies, amount to £1,590,795; which is rather more than $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. upon the gross revenue.—*Ed.*

THE BURMESE WAR.

MEMOIR OF OPERATIONS ON THE SILHET FRONTIER IN THE YEAR 1824.

PRIOR to the year 1824, the district of Silhet had been remarkable only for the great tranquillity which it enjoyed; the peace of the country having never been disturbed, except by the attack on Jyntea in 1774, and the disputes with the Cossiahs in 1789 or 1790, on both of which occasions the agitation excited was inconsiderable.

The neighbouring petty states, by which the district is nearly surrounded, seem to have been equally quiet until 1817; after which year Cachar became the scene of frequent commotions. Rajah Kissen Chundra, who governed that state about forty years, appears to have been a wise and benevolent prince, under whose administration the country enjoyed tranquillity, and attained a considerable degree of prosperity. More land was then in cultivation than had been at any preceding period, and although the Rajah's government is commonly quoted by the inhabitants as one in which the assessments were extremely moderate, yet he was enabled to amass some wealth, and to expend considerable sums in various useful and political schemes. After his demise, in 1813, the country appears to have gradually declined from the prosperous condition to which he had raised it; and in 1817, when it was conquered by Marjeet, it was already much impoverished, and the revenue had suffered a proportionable diminution. This event was not caused by any previous dissensions with the new Rajah, Govind Chundra, but was the consequence of the occupation of Munnipoor by the Burmahs, which compelled Marjeet, the reigning prince of the latter, with a large body of followers, to seek an establishment in the former country.

The circumstances which led to the expulsion of Marjeet from Munnipoor, and by their consequences to that of Govind Chundra from Cachar, may be thus briefly narrated.

When about 1774 the Burmahs under Shembuan made their irruption into the valley of Munnipoor, they certainly did not (as has been erroneously stated) penetrate into Cachar, though the latter country afforded an asylum to the expelled chief, Baughi Chundra, or Jye Sing. After the retreat of his enemies, Jye Sing returned to his country, in which he passed the rest of his life, and the throne seems to have been possessed by his descendants until the year 1810, when the Burmahs again interfered in the affairs of Munnipoor. Lowin Chundra and Muddoo Chundra, the sons of Jye Sing, appear to have successively fallen the victims of conspiracies among their younger brothers; and the government, in consequence, devolved upon Chourjeet, who, placing

no reliance on Marjeet and Gumbeer Sing (the guilty participators of those crimes by which he had obtained supreme power), adopted measures which compelled them to flee, the latter to Cachar, and the former to the court of Ava, whence, after some years past in solicitations, Marjeet procured an army, which established him in Munnipoor as a tributary to the King of Burmah, driving out Chourjeet, who took refuge first in Cachar, and ultimately in the British territories. In 1817 Marjeet received a summons to Ava, with which he did not think it prudent to comply; and in consequence a Burmah force entered Munnipoor, and retained permanent possession of it, while Marjeet, collecting about 5,000 people, including troops and followers (all of whom however were armed) retired into Cachar, where he attacked Govind Chundra, from whom he met with little or no opposition, since, although his troops were armed, and in some measure disciplined in the European manner, they were disheartened by his cowardice, and disgusted by his penurious and effeminate habits. Nevertheless, at the defence of a fort near the frontier of Silhet, considerable bravery was displayed by the followers of the Rajah; and it was probable that the repulse, which was first experienced there by the invaders, might have compelled them to retire, but the unexpected treachery of Gumbeer Sing, the brother of Marjeet, who commanded a small corps in the service of Govind Chundra, decided the day, and obliged the Rajah to flee into the British territories.

In the mean time, Chourjeet, the elder brother of Marjeet and Gumbeer Sing, who had been about seven years previously expelled from the throne of Munnipoor, and who was now residing at Silhet, collecting a few followers, passed through Jyntea, and spreading a report that the British troops, which had been advanced towards the frontier in consequence of the war in Cachar, were in motion to support him, succeeded in bringing under his control all the troops and followers of Marjeet and Gumbeer Sing; and giving to each of these a limited authority over certain tracts of country, proclaimed himself Rajah of Cachar.

In the early part of 1823, Chourjeet, after a turbulent reign of five years, finding himself unable longer to maintain his authority against the threatened attacks of the Burmahs from without, and the rebellious disposition of his subjects within, offered to place Cachar under British protection. His offer was accepted; but before a treaty for the purpose could be completed, Chourjeet was driven from his throne by Gumbeer Sing, and compelled to seek an asylum in Silhet.

The British Government, which seems now to have become aware of the importance of Cachar, as connected with the security of the north-eastern frontier of Bengal, directed the magistrate of Silhet to enter into negotiations for the renewal of the treaty, either with Gumbeer Sing, singly, or with such of the chiefs conjointly as might appear to possess independent establishments in Cachar. It resulted, on inquiry, that Gumbeer Sing possessed the whole country except the purgunnah Tlakandee, which had been assigned to Marjeet, who gladly consented to become a party to the proposed treaty. But Gumbeer Sing, after much evasion, withheld his consent, and even towards the close of the year, when the intention of the Burmahs to invade Cachar had become more evident to him, confiding in the natural difficulties of the country, and believing he could always obtain aid from the British Government on application, he again blindly refused to complete the treaty until the necessity of it should become more urgent.

The British Government, in consequence of the hostile tone of the discussions

sions with the Burmese on the frontier of Chittagong, had contemplated the probability of their entering Cachar, and therefore moved a detachment to Silhet, for the protection of the frontier, prohibiting, however, an advance into Cachar, the course of proceeding with regard to which was still under consideration; but, after the pertinacious refusal of Gumbeer Sing to conclude the treaty, it was determined to restore the legitimate rajah, Govind Chundra, and to assign pensions to the Munnipooree brothers, should they offer no obstacles to the establishment of our supremacy in Cachar. This decision had become the more necessary, as war with the Burmese now appeared inevitable, and it had been long known that the possession by us of Cachar was essential to the defence of our frontier, while its occupation by the enemy would be pregnant with most serious inconvenience, and compromise the safety of all the eastern part of Bengal, to which it affords easy access by water.

Affairs were in the state above described, when, on the 7th January 1824, Captain Bowe, commanding a detachment at Budderpoor, received advice from Gumbeer Sing of the movement towards Cachar from Munnipoor of a Burmese force, estimated at about 4,000 men; and shortly afterwards the Rajah himself appeared, and earnestly solicited the advance of the detachment to aid him in repelling the invasion. With his application it was of course impossible to comply; but the intelligence having been communicated to Silhet, measures were taken for the immediate concentration of all the troops in the district, and by the morning of the 13th there were collected at Budderpoor five companies 1st bat. 10th N.I., three companies 2d bat. 23d N.I., and four companies Rungpore L.I. bat.; in all about 1,000 men, under the command of Major Newton.

In the mean time, the accounts respecting the enemy were extremely vague, suspicious, and contradictory, so that on the 12th, it was concluded, for various reasons, by Mr. Tucker, commissioner in Silhet, that the force opposed to Gumbeer Sing consisted not of Burmahs, but rather of a mixed multitude of Munnipoorees, Cachars, &c., leagued under Petumbah Sing (his nephew) against him. Of the reasons for this belief the principal were, the apathy of Gumbeer Sing, and the fact of his not having yet sent his family within the British frontier, although he had applied for and received permission to do so; his refusal to allow our vakeel to accompany his troops in advance; the state of the country, the inhabitants of which were unconcerned, and following their usual peaceable avocations; and finally, the reflection that it might possibly be the interest of Gumbeer Sing to deceive us as to the character of his enemies; for could he but induce us to advance into Cachar, that act of itself would be sufficient to stop Petumbah Sing, and cause the dispersion of his troops.

On the 14th, however, the complexion of affairs had materially changed: our vakeel stated that a skirmish had taken place between the opposite parties, and that he had himself heard the report of musquetry, &c. On this occasion a part of the enemy's advanced guard had been taken, among whom was a young man (apparently a Burmah) who was forwarded a prisoner to our camp. The inhabitants, too, of Cachar had now begun to flee into Tlakandee, and Gumbeer Sing had sent his family to the frontier. The only circumstance which still induced in Mr. Tucker's mind a doubt of the fact, that the advancing army was composed of Burmahs, was the pertinacity with which the Rajah refused to allow our vakeel to accompany him in advance, where he might

might have an opportunity of seeing and reporting events as they occurred before his eyes.

Though, on the advance of the British detachment to Silhet, orders had been issued by Government, restricting its operations to the defence of the frontier, yet, adverting to the known resolution not to allow the establishment of a Burmese force in Cachar, and considering the advanced season of the year, and the probability that the enemy, having penetrated into the country, might take up fortified positions, to drive them from which a large force would be necessary, it was now considered no longer requisite to restrain the advance of our troops; and as a preliminary to a general movement eastward, Captain Johnstone was detached, on the night of the 14th, with five companies, as a corps of observation, to Tilyn, of which he took possession the following day.

On the 16th Major Newton proceeded towards Tilyn to reconnoitre the country; but at Juttrapoor he received intelligence, which in his opinion rendered the immediate adoption of offensive measures necessary to the safety of his detachment. It appeared that on the 15th Rajah Gumber Sing had been defeated at Lalang, and that an army of Burmahs from Assam had crossed by the Bhurtekha pass, and newly taken post at Bickrampoor, while a third force was stated at the time to have entered Jyntea by Mootagool. The Major resolved to attack the force at Bickrampoor before it should have stockaded its position; and with this view despatched expresses to Captains Johnstone and Bowe, commanding severally at Tilyn and Budderpoor, directing them to join him forthwith at Jattrapoor with all their troops. This junction having been effected, about 2 o'clock A.M., on the morning of the 17th, the whole moved off, and after a march of four hours over a difficult country, arrived at a comparatively open spot, about half a mile from the enemy's position. While the troops were forming in column of grand divisions a reconnoissance was effected, under the protection of the advanced guard, from which it appeared that the enemy's position extended along the foot of the hills, and was covered by huts, bushes, &c. in a close country, while on their right they had a stockade on the banks of a steep nulla, occupied by about 200 men.

As the enemy had taken alarm, and fired upon our advanced party, the column was divided, and two attacks were immediately made on their position; Major Newton with the right column under Captain Bowe attacking and driving the enemy from the village into the hills, while Captain Johnstone with the left assaulted the stockade, which maintained a protracted resistance, terminated, however, by the destruction of the greater part of its garrison.

Our loss on this occasion amounted to five killed and fourteen wounded; that of the enemy was ascertained to amount to thirty-five in the stockade, while it was supposed they lost about 150 more in the neighbouring village and fields. This estimate derives confirmation from a letter of the Burmese commander, subsequently received, in which he states his loss at seventy Burmahs killed, besides the wounded and Assamese, of whom he takes no notice.

Notwithstanding this success, it was judged advisable to return to Budderpoor, as the force from Munnipoor, after dispersing Gumber Sing's troops, had advanced to Rungpoor, near Doodhputlee, and that with which we had just been engaged, though checked, had suffered no material diminution of numbers, while it was impossible to pursue and inflict on it a further loss, as the troops were without supplies, and nothing could be obtained from the country.

The following day a man came into the camp at Budderpoor with a letter addressed to the British authorities, and to Rajah Govind Chundra, from the Burmese commander at Bickrampoor. This individual had, in the month of December, accompanied a vakeel, deputed by the magistrate of Silhet to meet the force marching from Assam, and to deliver letters to its several chiefs, informing them that their further advance into Cachar would lead to hostilities with the British Government. These representations were not attended to, and the vakeel was placed in confinement, the Burmahs affecting to consider him an impostor.

The letter of the commander, now received, stated, that in consequence of a personal application made by Govind Chundra (who, it was asserted, after his dethronement had visited Ava, *via* Arakan), his Burmese Majesty, touched with pity for his misfortunes, had ordered two forces, one from Assam, consisting of 18,000 men, and another from Munnipoor, of 14,000, to enter Cachar and re-establish him in his dominions, bringing away prisoners the three brothers Chourjeet, Marjeet, and Gumbeer Sing, who, it was considered, were the guilty authors of all the disturbances both in that country and Munnipoor.

Maha Nund Keyooden, the Burmah commander, then complains of the affair at Bickrampoor, in which he states that seventy Burmahs were killed; he announces the dreadful vengeance which his Burmah Majesty will doubtless direct to be taken in consequence; and finishes by observing, that the friendship which had so long subsisted between the two powers was at an end.

Although it was well known that Govind Chundra had not visited Ava, yet there seems now little doubt (notwithstanding his vehement assurances to the contrary) that, despairing to interest the British Government in his favour, burning for revenge on Gumbeer Sing, and suffering much distress from reduced circumstances, he had applied, through his vakeel, to the Burman Government for the assistance of an army, which was readily granted by the latter, who eagerly availed themselves of a pretext for establishing their forces in a situation eminently favourable to the prosecution of their designs on Bengal.

About the 21st, the two Burmese armies advanced and effected a junction at Jattrapoor, where they constructed several extensive stockades on either sides of the river Barak, across which they threw a temporary bridge for foot passengers. Shortly afterwards they detached 1000 men to Tlakandec to drive out Gumbeer Sing, who was in consequence obliged to retire into the British territory, whither, however, the Burmese did not think proper to pursue him.

In the mean time, Mr. Scott, the agent to the Governor-General, who had recently arrived at Budderpoor, addressed a letter to the Burmese commander, reminding him that he had previously from Gowalpara protested against his intended irruption into Cachar: and he now informed him, that, in the event of the Burmese persisting in the course of unlawful aggression which they had commenced, and not retiring forthwith from the country, a British force would be immediately ordered to enter Assam, while, at the same time, an attack would be made on the Burmese in Cachar. He concluded by demanding the release of our vakeel, who still continued in the enemy's hands.

No answer was received either to this, or several other letters despatched by Mr. Scott between the 23d January and 3d February, when his interpreter returned from Jattrapoor, and stated, that the Burmese commander, in reply to his repeated demands for an answer, had declared that he would give none until he received instructions from Ava, to which place he had written for orders

orders. The interpreter added, that he behaved in a most outrageous manner, sometimes threatening to cut off his head, and at others, "to march to England."

It was at the same time ascertained that the enemy had threatened to enter Jyntea, the Rajah of which country communicated to Mr. Scott a letter received by him from the Burmah commander, of which the following is a translation.

Mengee Maha Nund Koodeen, commander-in-chief at Assam, acquaints the Rajah of Jyntea and ministers, that presents and offerings from the country of Jyntea were invariably sent to the rulers of Assam until Rajah Goorenauth became engaged in war with Matoncka, and the country and several villages were depredated; from this time the usual offerings were discontinued.

Assam and its sovereign having been conquered by his Burman Majesty, a governor has been appointed to rule its four cities and eight provinces, including Jyntea, and to preserve peace, Lojakoop, the chief of Chajooky, and Natlee, and Cho-ho-ru, and other chiefs, recognize our authority; the General is accordingly commanded to acquaint the Rajah of Jyntea and ministers, wherever they may be, that they must bow submission, and send offerings. He was also commanded to proceed by land for the purpose of placing the chief of Cozalee (apparently Cachar) on the musnud. By the good fortune of our sovereign, the King of White Elephants, &c., on our arrival at Cozalee, we attacked and assaulted the Cassagees, took prisoners, and quieted the disturbances which prevailed there. The Rajah of Jyntea and ministers always obeyed the commands of the Assamese rulers, and sent presents and offerings.

Doolnyun, now in the royal service, the son of the Rajah of Cozalee, and his officers, Tike Kooran, Lojakoop, Dooraik, Woonrah, are charged with this letter, and ordered to request the Rajah of Jyntea to come to the place where our forces are assembled, for the purpose of affording explanation.

Mr. Scott, in reply to the Rajah's communication, took occasion to urge him to place his country under British protection; he warned him that, in the event of his admitting the Burmese into his territories without opposition, he would be treated by us as an enemy; but to prevent his being intimidated by them, he promised him assistance, in case he should be attacked, and a party of the enemy appearing shortly afterwards near the Jyntea frontier, a detachment of about 150 men, under Lieut. Richardson, was sent to reinforce the Rajah's troops; when the Burmese party speedily withdrew, without giving Lieut. Richardson an opportunity of attacking them.

After the affair at Bickrampoor, the Government had directed Mr. Scott to authorize the resort to active measures for the immediate expulsion of the enemy from Cachar; but on a review of our means at Budderpoor, after detachments had been made for the protection of Silhet and the Jyntea frontier, both Major Newton and Mr. Scott concluded with regret that they were insufficient for the attack of the enemy's positions at Jatrapoor, now fully completed, amply supplied with provisions, and occupied by upwards of 6,000 men. Application was, therefore, made to the officer commanding at Dacca for reinforcements to the extent of a complete battalion, with four field pieces; but before these could arrive, the enemy advanced a party, which, after erecting two stockades at Phoolbarri, commenced a work on the 13th February at Siddipoor, on the northern bank of the Soormah river, and about 1,000 yards from the post at Budderpoor.

Captain Johnstone, who, during the absence of Major Newton, commanded at Budderpoor, resolved, with the consent of Mr. Scott, immediately to attack them, and for this purpose crossed the river, with all the disposable men, and formed them into three columns, with which he intended to have assaulted

assaulted their position, under cover of the fire of two 4-pounders, which were advanced for that purpose on the southern bank of the river from Budderpoor; but before the guns could reach the position assigned to them the columns had spontaneously advanced, and the enemy, without making any resistance, had fled to Phoolbarri, pursued by the light infantry to the distance of about a mile from the field.

On this occasion we had one killed, and about forty wounded by the stakes which the Burmahs usually plant around their entrenchments.

It was expected that this affair would have drawn the enemy's main body, and on this account the arrival of Lieut. Colonel Bowen, with five companies 1st bat. 10th regiment, who was known to be on his way from Silhet, was somewhat anxiously looked for. He joined the force at Budderpoor on the 15th, and accounts were the same day received of the evacuation by the enemy of all their extensive works at Jatrapoor, and of their having commenced their retreat towards Assam; a measure to which they appear to have been driven by the necessity of defending that country, which they were now certain was about to be attacked by a British force assembling at Gowalparra.

After the receipt of this unexpected intelligence, Lieut. Colonel Bowen on the 16th advanced by water from Budderpoor, having previously detached Major Newton, with 200 men, to occupy the enemy's work at Jatrapoor. It having been ascertained that a part of the Burmese force had halted near Berkhola, the Lieutenant Colonel proceeded on the 18th to attack it, and after disembarking at 9 A.M., near the mouth of the Jatingah river, marched along the right bank to the enemy's position, which he reached about 11 o'clock. He found them strongly posted in two stockades on the left bank of the river, the passage of which, at the only place where it was supposed to be fordable, was completely commanded by one of them. The river having been reconnoitered both above and below, and all attempts to discover a more eligible passage having failed, in consequence of the depth and rapidity of the stream, the only expedient available was to cross the troops on the backs of elephants, which was happily effected, after some delay and with much difficulty. An attack was then directed upon the north-east corner of the nearest stockade, which the enemy immediately abandoned, flying, pursued by the detachment, to another strong and extensive work under the hills, in which it was imagined they intended to make a determined resistance. They, however, merely passed through it, on their way to the hills, and our detachment found convenient shelter in it from a heavy fall of rain which occurred in the night.

In the mean time the Burmah force, which had originally invaded Cachar from Munnipoor, had retired only to Doodhputlee, where it had taken up a position in which it was attacked on the 21st. The troops landed from their boats, about two miles below the enemy's works, and while Major Newton (with the main body and three 4-pounders which he had prepared at Silhet, soon after his arrival) advanced along the right bank of the Barak towards their stockades, Lieut. Colonel Bowen made a detour, with five companies, to the northward, with the double object of securing some heights which commanded the enemy's position, and of reconnoitering it generally.

Under the fire of the guns, several desultory attacks were made, none of which proving successful, Lieut. Colonel Bowen, about five o'clock in the afternoon, collected the detachment, and made a general advance in line against the western front of the nearest stockade. The troops were received, at the distance of about sixty yards from the works, by a very heavy fire of

musquetry and jingals, which checked and threw them into confusion. After enduring it for some minutes they broke into column behind the right wing, and a retreat was shortly afterwards made, in square, covered by the light infantry; the enemy, however, not venturing to pursue. Our loss in this unfortunate affair was severe, amounting to upwards of 150 Sipahs killed and wounded, besides the following officers: 1st bat. 10th N.I., Lieut. Armstrong, killed; Lieut. Colonel Bowen, slightly wounded; Ensign Barberie, severely wounded; 2d bat. 23d N.I., Captain Johnston, severely wounded.

On the 26th instant Lieut. Colonel Bowen's detachment, which, after leaving a party at Tilyn, had retired to Jattrapoor, was joined by eight companies 2d bat. 19th N.I., with four 6-pounders, and Lieut. Richardson's detachment from the Jyntea frontier, under Lieut. Colonel Innes, C.B., who, as senior officer, assumed the general command in Cachar and Silhet.

The whole were to have advanced against the enemy next morning, but it was in the mean time ascertained that the Burmahs, satisfied with their defensive victory of the 21st, had quitted Doodhputlee, and retired on the 24th to Banskandee, on the route to Munnipoor.

The troops therefore merely moved forward to Tilyn, at which place they remained until the 6th March, when it appearing that the enemy had continued their retreat through the hills, the detachment was withdrawn to Silhet, leaving two companies of the Rungpoor L.I. in garrison at Tilyn, and three companies 2d bat. 10th N.I. with the remainder of the light infantry battalion at Budderpoor.

(To be continued in our next number.)

TERRITORIAL GRANTS IN INDIA.

To the Editor of the Asiatic Journal.

SIR: In the *Madras Gazette* of February 1827,* there is a highly flattering tribute of respect paid to the merits and services of a distinguished native officer of cavalry, to whom a sword and a horse were presented in front of his regiment, and to whom, in addition, a grant was made by the Madras Government of "ground to the extent of sixty canies."† Now, Sir, with reference to a prevailing opinion, that private property in land exists no where in India, the provinces of Malabar and Canara excepted, allow me to assure your readers that this is not a grant of *ground*, that it is a grant of the *revenue* from the ground, "for three lives only;" that this distinguished soldier (a Mahomedan) will not have the right to eject the Hindoo cultivators and to cultivate this ground by his own means; that he must be content to collect the revenue derivable from this land by the Government (of which by assignment he has become the proprietor), according to the rates at which it was previously paid; that, in fact, he is made by grant a zemindar of sixty canies, and is precisely in the same situation, with reference to the cultivators of the soil, as a zemindar of 1,000 villages.‡

R. R.

* See p. 245 of our present volume.

† Equal to about ninety acres English.

‡ When the army of his Highness the Nabob of the Carnatic was disbanded, the native officers and soldiers of that army would not accept grants of *ground*; but pleaded very hard for grants of *land revenue*.

THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

MR. PLATT, secretary of the Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society, has published a pamphlet* in reply to an article in the *Quarterly Review* containing certain serious charges against that Society, of which we gave an abstract in our last number. We have read this pamphlet with the attention it deserves, considering the character of the writer, as well as his connexion with the body so severely impugned; and although it cannot be denied that Mr. Platt has done a good deal towards relieving the Society from the heavy accusations of the reviewer, whom he has convicted of some want of candour and ingenuousness, we must acknowledge, with no small regret, that his vindication is not so triumphant as the friends of the cause which he advocates (in the number of whom we desire to be included) might have expected, or at least hoped, that it would be.

The fairest course we can pursue, on the present occasion, is to lay before our readers a faithful abstract of Mr. Platt's Reply, which may, as far as it is capable of doing so, counteract the tendency of those charges in the *Quarterly Review*, to which the article in our last number gave additional currency.

It will be recollected that our statement of the charges referred to embraced a few only of the specific cases mentioned in the *Review*: we passed over the strictures upon the Welsh, Irish, Calmuc, and Mohawk versions. We shall now, however, bestow a few words upon these several cases.

The reviewer stated, in respect to the translation of the Bible into the Welsh language, that it was executed by an *apostatized* clergyman from the established church, who introduced so many unauthorized innovations by way of *improving* the version, that one of the Welsh bishops remonstrated with the Committee, and the work was suppressed. Now, it appears from the statement of Mr. Platt, that no unauthorized innovations were introduced into this Bible to improve the version, and that no edition of the Welsh Bible was ever suppressed. Whilst the copy was *preparing for the press*, a representation was made to the committee (not by a Welsh bishop, or any dignitary of the church), that the *orthography* of the copy was objectionable. This is, therefore, a misstatement; and the sneer against the translator, Mr. Charles, is shown by Mr. Platt to be illiberal and undeserved. He adds, that "no fault has ever been found with the Welsh Bibles and Testaments which have been actually printed; and the number of these has been, up to the present time, 97,598 Bibles, and 156,697 Testaments." In reply to another remark of the reviewer upon this case, Mr. Platt observes that the Society did not shun the aid of dignity and learning; "though, too often, men of dignity and learning shunned the Society."

In regard to the Irish Testament, which, the reviewer says, was executed by "one Mr. McQuig, who had formerly been a preacher among the Wesleyan Methodists, and who had been expelled from this connexion for repeated misconduct," quoting, at the same time, a resolution of the Irish Society, in which it is stated that, "after a full inquiry, the members feel satisfied that *material and very numerous errors* exist in the Irish version of the New Testament edited by the British and Foreign Bible Society;" Mr. Platt here certainly fixes upon the reviewer a charge of misrepresentation. The Testament in question

* Facts respecting certain Versions of Holy Scripture published by the British and Foreign Bible Society, in reply to an article in the seventy-first number of the *Quarterly Review*. By Thomas Pell Platt, M.A. F.A.S., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

question was no new translation, but the received version of Archbishop Daniel, which Mr. Mc Quige (who had been introduced to the Committee by Dr. Adam Clarke, one of the leading members of the Wesleyan body) was employed to *edit*, with a strict charge to adhere to the text. When the resolution of the Irish Society was communicated to the Committee, the latter desired a list of *errata*, previous to a new edition, then ordered, being put to press, and of which edition a grant of 5,000 copies had been voted for the Irish Society. This very Society, however, manifested so little confidence in their own resolution (which, as exhibited in full, by Mr. Platt, reveals the fact that they had fallen into a mistake as to the version of the Society, which they considered to be different from Daniel's), that they applied for the whole of the copies; and the Committee, after waiting more than a twelvemonth for the *errata*, were obliged to put the work to press without them. Mr. Platt says:

The edition was completed accordingly, and put into circulation; and the Irish Society received the number granted to them. They have since received other large supplies, but no further complaint of any errors has been heard.

The Mohawk translation, Mr. Platt admits, was obtained in the manner stated in the *Review*; but he adds, in proof of its accuracy, that when the managers of the American Bible Society at New York, who had printed an edition from this very translation, heard that some complaints against its fidelity were abroad, they suspended its circulation until inquiry could be made, the result of which Mr. Platt has given in extracts from the Ninth and Tenth Reports of that Society; wherein it is stated, that "from various sources the Board have obtained satisfactory evidence that, although there are some trifling inaccuracies in it, principally in orthography, yet there is no error that can hinder its usefulness."

The charge in the *Review* against the Calmuc Scriptures was, that the Committee of the Bible Society directed a set of queries to be sent to the Moravian missionaries settled amongst the Calmucs, as to the competency of the persons (Moravian missionaries) who executed these translations, their accuracy, &c. &c.; and upon the receipt of assurances from the missionaries that the translators were competent, and that the correctness of these translations might be confidently relied on (though the work was imperfect by reason of the imperfection of the language itself), the Committee purchased types, and without further inquiry, recommended the missionaries to proceed in their translations, with a promise of assistance from the Society.

Mr. Platt, in reply to this allegation, observes, that no better course could be taken in order to ascertain, in the first instance, the fidelity of these translations, than to apply to missionaries who had been so long employed in teaching among these people the truths which these very Scriptures contain; but that, so far from these translations being adopted without further thought or examination, scarcely any part of their version can be said to have been published at all.

It was at Petersbourg that the Calmuc Gospels were printed, and there that an editor and translator was found for them, Mr. J. J. Schmidt:—for the missionaries sent indeed into Russia the portions which they had prepared, which served for consultation and reference; but the version was, in truth, Mr. Schmidt's own; and in the Latin title-page prefixed to the first edition of the Gospel of St. Matthew, it bears his name. And of Mr. Schmidt's intimate acquaintance with the Mongolian and Calmuc dialects, no man who is at all acquainted with the recent history of Oriental literature on the Continent can for a moment doubt.

The Reviewer's accusation respecting the Chinese translation of the Scriptures we disregarded, deeming a charge founded merely upon the diffident acknowledgments of the translator, Dr. Morrison, to be inconclusive and unsatisfactory. Mr. Platt, not content with quoting the favourable sentiments expressed, in a preceding number of the *Quarterly Review*, of the character of Dr. Morrison as a Chinese scholar, has published a letter from Sir George Staunton, respecting these animadversions on Dr. Morrison's translation, wherein that able and experienced sinologist says:

"I cannot say that I have examined Dr. Morrison's translation so critically as to be able to give a positive opinion on its precise degree of merit; but I have no hesitation in saying, that I conceive his qualifications for the execution of the task to have been far superior to those of any other person whatever. He is, unquestionably, our best Chinese scholar—he had made himself fully acquainted with the previous labours of the Catholic missionaries—he was in constant communication with the intelligent natives during the progress of the work—and his general zeal, diligence, and integrity, in the cause to which he has devoted himself, are too well known to need any confirmation from my testimony."

Further: Mr. Platt was one of a deputation from the Committee of the Bible Society, who waited upon Lord Amherst before he went to India, when his Lordship paid the following tribute to Dr. Morrison's talents:

"To one of your translators, at least, I can bear a favourable testimony—Dr. Morrison. I recollect particularly one instance of his accuracy. It was necessary once, when I was in China, that a certain paper should be drawn up, which etiquette required to be of the most faultless composition: every rule of Chinese propriety of diction was to be strictly adhered to. Dr. Morrison drew it up; and, when it was submitted to some Chinese authorities for inspection, it was pronounced altogether correct and unblameable."

Such evidence, we presume to apprehend, outweighs the testimony of even such "profound orientalists" as M. Klaproth!

The charge against the Turkish translation is contained in the following note in the *Review*:

"Some most miserable details of their (the Committee's) style of management occur in the history of their Turkish New Testament. The text was that of a Polish renegade, which had lain in MS. for more than a hundred years; and no sooner was it published in 1818, than Dr. Henderson, and other friends and agents of the Society, began to complain that, in addition to prevailing errors of mere style, florid affectation, and so forth, *important additions, and still more important omissions*, deprived this version of all just title to respect and support. The Society got some of the Parisian literati to bolster up their Turkish Testament with their certificates; but the issue was, that some hundreds of gross errors were acknowledged. And here comes the curious part of the story—how were these errors to be corrected? The Directors of the British and Foreign Bible Society made *cancels* in their book; that is, they printed anew the leaves containing the most horrible blunders—in number fifty-one—and sent out bundles of these corrected leaves to Turkey, to be distributed among those who had previously acquired the books. These persons were, of course, easy to be found; when found, it was easy to persuade them to have their Testaments taken out of the binding and rebound with the new leaves; and the whole affair, when completed, could not fail to inspire the proprietors of the Turkish Testament with sentiments of redoubled confidence in the purity of its text."

Mr. Platt does not hesitate to pronounce this statement, in its important features, a gross misrepresentation. By a mistake of Professor Kieffer, the editor of the Turkish Testament, the text of the MS. translation was implicitly followed, instead of being collated with the original, in consequence of
which

which several errors were discovered; but not more than 100 copies, if so many, had been issued when this discovery was made, and the Professor was set to revise the text. He furnished a list of *errata*, the greater part of which were found to be so utterly insignificant, that it would be quite useless to notice them; and a table was appended to the Testament containing all that could be considered of importance, in number 49.

But even of these there was not one that appeared directly to affect any point of faith or practice. Those that appeared to do so, were remedied in another and more effectual way, by cancelling the leaves on which they occurred. The leaves so cancelled were in number, eight. Having already observed, that scarcely any copies had yet been issued, I need scarcely add, that the whole story about sending bundles of leaves to Turkey, to be inserted in copies already in circulation, is a mere fiction: its falsehood is as gross as the charge which it conveys is insulting.

The character of Ali Bey, Bobovius, or Bobowski, the original translator, Mr. Platt vindicates from the insinuation of the Reviewer. He was the tutor of the celebrated Meninski, and is described by the learned Dr. Hyde as "a most zealous and assiduous student of languages, and extremely well versed and skilled in many of those of Europe and Asia also, so that he was promoted, under the Sultan Mahomet IV., to the office of *Dragomān Bashī*, or first interpreter." The controversy respecting this version, between Dr. Henderson and Professor Lee, is well known.

In reply to the general reflections contained in the *Review* upon the translators and editors of the works published by the Society, namely, that "*without one single exception*, the new versions which have appeared, either at the direct expense or under the immediate control of the Earl Street Committee, have either been executed by incompetent translators, or printed without having been subjected to a proper revision;" and that, in reprints of foreign versions, the Committee "seem to stumble, almost instinctively, upon the most incompetent editor that could have been discovered;" Mr. Platt gives a list of the names both of translators and editors, wherein, it must be confessed, are *some* (including Mr. Platt's) which are unexceptionable. The sweeping censure of the Reviewer falls, therefore, to the ground.

The most important part of the question relates to the Indian versions, to which Mr. Platt properly has appropriated a considerable portion of his pamphlet. The following remarks on the "general principle" assumed by the Reviewer, and in which we concurred, are prefixed by Mr. Platt:

And here, while the Reviewer "lays it down as a general principle, admitting of very rare, if of any, exceptions, that the translator of the Sacred Writings ought to possess a critical acquaintance with the original, together with an intimate and vernacular knowledge of the language into which he engages to translate them," he says that, "in the execution of all the versions which have been printed for the first time under the auspices of the Committee of the Bible Society, principles have been allowed to prevail, for which we can discover no precedent in the annals of any previous translations."—"The translators," for instance, in one case at least, "are uneducated men, totally unacquainted with the original languages of the Scriptures, and having a knowledge of the language, into which they translate, which their eulogists can only venture to call 'pretty complete.'"—"For any thing we can see," he says in another place, "the case stands thus: from whatever quarter new translations may be offered, they are immediately accepted and printed, without any satisfactory evidence of the competency of the individuals by whom they have been executed."

Now here, from my own experience and from recorded facts, I will venture to assert, that the principles upon which the Committee have uniformly acted have been these:—that it is most desirable and most important to get a translation made directly from the

the Hebrew and Greek originals, when men can be found able to make such a translation; but that, when such men cannot be found, it is better, *FAR BETTER*, to publish among a people merely the version of a version; than to leave them in utter ignorance of the Word of God: provided always, that the version so produced should either have undergone a revision by some person acquainted with the originals; or, in extreme cases, as those of the North-American Indian languages, where it is impossible to obtain such a revision, that it should be certified, on the best testimony that may be had, to be a faithful transcript of the version that it professes to follow.

In respect to these Indian versions, and to the charges against the Serampore translators, Mr. Platt has borrowed most of his reply to the Reviewer's "array of charges" from the correspondence and reports of the Serampore missionaries themselves. The most important of these counter-statements undoubtedly is contained in the very first letter, dated in 1808, from Dr. Carey, in which, after stating that they (the missionaries) never *print* any translation till every word has been revised, and re-revised, the writer adds:

"Whatever helps we employ, I have never yet suffered a single word, or a single mode of construction, to pass, without examining it, and seeing through it. I read every proof-sheet twice or thrice myself, and correct every letter with my own hand. Brother Marshman and I compare with the Greek or Hebrew, and Brother Ward reads every sheet. Three of the translations, *viz.* the Bengalee, Hindostanee, and Sungskrit, I translate with my own hand: the two last immediately from the Greek; and the Hebrew Bible is before me while I translate the Bengalee. Whatever helps I use, I commit my judgment to none of them. Brother Marshman does the same with the Chinese, and all that he engages in; and so does Brother Ward."

The late Mr. Ward, in a letter dated 1820, gives the following account of the mode of translation adopted by Dr. Carey:

"In that spirit of faith which has distinguished his missionary life, he engaged these learned men (Pundits from Benares, Cashmere, the Punjab, and the different provinces of India) as fast as they were brought; and put the Sungskrit Bible, as the original from which they were to translate, into the hands of each. Each Pundit, thus furnished, and instructed also in the nature of the work of translation, now sat down, and began to render the Divine Word into his native dialect. He was assisted for some time by hints and directions from two learned Hindoos, prepared by Dr. Carey, and familiarized to the work of translation by having read the proofs of the Sungskrit and Bengalee with the Doctor; and then, from day to day, he was able to go on alone with his work. At an early period, his first attempts were brought to the test; for, after he had advanced some way, his manuscript was put to press, and the first sheet was examined by one of the initiated native assistants, sitting by the side of this original native translator. The first and second proofs were thus corrected, which brought the sheet as near as *they* could bring it to the original Sungskrit. The third proof was then carried to Dr. Carey by the translator himself; and they went over it together, and over as many more proofs of the same sheet as the Doctor thought necessary, sometimes more and sometimes less; and after this, the sheet was ordered to press. This has been the constant and only process in these translations, from the beginning."

From the Eighth "Memoir of Translations executed at Serampore," Mr. Platt has *candidly* admitted the following extract:

"To expect that these editions will not be susceptible of many and various improvements, would be vain in itself, and contrary to universal experience. The English version, which occupied the labour of the learned for seventy years, is by many deemed faulty at the present day: how must it, then, have appeared in the first twenty years, or in its first edition! Yet this did not prevent its being made the instrument of converting thousands, and of pouring forth such a flood of light as led to the correction of its own defects. They (the missionaries) trust that the versions they have put to press will be

be found intelligible to the great body of the people, and generally accurate. On the testimony of native critics, however, much dependence cannot be placed, as they must necessarily be ignorant of the original text, and of the peculiar phraseology of Scripture; while those phrases of Scripture which enter into the essence of Christianity, such as 'living in Christ,' 'crucified with Christ,' 'justified by faith,' 'taking up the cross,' and numerous others, must be literally retained at whatever sacrifice of idiom. And as these terms are by no means intelligible to the bulk of mere nominal Christians, even in Britain, it will not appear strange if they should not be immediately apprehended by heathens. Should a native critic, therefore, withhold his unqualified testimony from any version, this would be insufficient to prove that it might not still be intelligible to the body of his own countrymen. If, after reading a portion of it, an intelligent native will seek for the volume and consider it a valuable gift, to men in his situation of life it must be intelligible; and the object of a first edition may be considered as secured. The Serampore Committee have reason to hope that this has been the case with the versions which have been already sent into circulation. The Serampore Committee are still employed in ascertaining the character of these versions, and will from time to time communicate to the religious public the result of their inquiries."

This last extract should be read (in order that the writer's sentiments may be correctly understood) in connection with a sentiment expressed by Sir Geo. Staunton, in a letter already referred to, and which Mr. Platt has adopted; namely, that the reviewer demands qualifications in a translator of the Scriptures, and a degree of perfection in the translation itself, which, however desirable in the abstract, would in this case have necessarily the effect of postponing the accomplishment of the work to an indefinite period, and consequently wholly frustrate the object in view, as far as respects the communication of religious knowledge to the natives of the present day through such a medium. The proposition is simply this: that it is better that versions of the Scriptures, as accurate as circumstances admit, but not free from errors, should be put into the hands of the natives of India, than that they should have none at all. This proposition involves considerations of such importance, that we are not prepared either to admit or to deny it. Undoubtedly the proposition would be far less questionable if the people for whom the versions were intended were comparatively rude and ignorant; but in countries where learning prevails, especially amongst those classes interested in resisting the progress of the Gospel, it is a serious question whether false expressions, vulgarisms, or any defects whatsoever, even a violation of those niceties of language which elude the less fastidious judgment of Europeans, in a work of this sacred character, have not an effect more prejudicial to the cause of Christianity than the withholding for a long time the Holy Records altogether.

Dr. Marshman, in a letter dated 1821, appended to the Eighth Memoir referred to, relates a curious fact, namely, that about the year 1819, a number of natives, scattered through ten or twelve villages near Dacca, were found to have forsaken idolatry and the peculiarities of Hindu superstition; they professed to be in search of a true *gooroo* or teacher; hence they were termed *Sutiya Gooroos*. Upon inquiry, the missionaries learned that they had imbibed their new ideas from a book, which was carefully preserved in a case, and no one could tell from whence it came. This book, on examination, proved to be a copy of the *first edition of the Bengalee New Testament*. This was the edition, it will be recollected, of which the translator, Dr. Carey, found himself under the necessity, in preparing the second edition, of altering almost every verse, in order to render it conformable to the Indian idiom: the words being Bengalee but the idiom English. It might be expected that there would

be little difficulty in these Sutiya Goroos becoming Christians; the contrary, however, appears to be the fact.

We forbear to lengthen this article by further quotations from the statements of the Serampore translators, which certainly show their diligence and application in procuring exact versions of the Scriptures. In their last memoir they say :

“As each version has occupied from seven to twelve years in its formation and its passage through the press, neither time nor means have been wanting to enable us to make up our own minds respecting the merits of each, long before it has been sent into circulation. We are ready to indulge the hope, therefore, that although all first versions must necessarily be imperfect, each of these already named is sufficiently accurate and perspicuous to become, under the divine blessing, the means of salvation, as well as the Bengalee, Sungskrit, and Hindee versions, which God has been pleased already thus to honour.”

“Surely, in all this,” observes Mr. Platt, “the man who feels a real interest in the circulation of the Scriptures, and the spread of Divine Truth, will see abundant cause, not for cavil and accusation, but for thankfulness and joy.”

So much in respect to the Indian versions : although Mr. Platt has not accomplished all that was required to refute the charges of the Reviewer, he has done much to diminish the odium they are calculated to convey.

On the subject of one of the gravest charges against the Committee in the *Review*, namely, the circulation of editions of the Bible on the Continent “purified of the passages which gave offence to the philosophers,” Mr. Platt observes, that the only cases in which such imputations have hitherto been made, are those of the Danish Testament, printed by the Society of Copenhagen; over which the Committee had no control; and the Lausanne edition of a French Bible, edited by the Pastors and Professors of Lausanne and Neufchatel jointly, the errors of which, according to Dr. Macbride, are mostly variations to improve the style, without any sinister intentions on the part of the editors. Mr. Platt says :

But still, it may be said, granting even that the corruption has been slight—granting that it has been found in two editions only, out of two hundred—is it not nevertheless a great evil?—Most certainly : but it is an evil which the precautions that experience teaches are rendering every year less and less likely to recur : and the question is, whether it be one of those evils which must attend the natural weakness and imperfection of all human institutions, or an evil which a different and better management might easily have avoided altogether?

Here Mr. Platt refers to a French Testament, one of the few versions published by the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, in which he points out sundry important omissions and mistakes in the Gospels and Epistles, compared even with the French version of Martin, of which the Society’s edition professes to be a new edition. We would remark upon this, that although it may be perfectly justifiable in Mr. Platt (considering the supposed source of the objections which he is contending against) to recriminate in this manner; yet the world may perhaps thereby be led to distrust translations and editions in general, from every quarter, besides *authority*.

The question respecting the Apocrypha, is, we apprehend, conceded to the Reviewer; and with regard to the charges concerning the expenditure, Mr. Platt does not profess to enter into them fully. He has inserted, however, some explanation respecting the concealment of Mr. Von Ess’s salary, which vindicates the motive without justifying the act.

We have now given, we believe, a faithful abstract of the reply to the serious charges of the *Quarterly Review*, from a gentleman who must be considered as the official organ of the Earl Street Committee. It will probably convince most persons who read it, that the article in the *Review* discovers a want of charity, and some symptoms of jealousy. But comparing both sides of the question, and divesting the charges in the *Review* of those very offensive features which Mr. Platt's reply is intended to remove, we must confess that there still remains enough to induce many timid persons to hesitate at placing implicit confidence in the managers of the Bible Society, except upon this ground, which is by no means to be overlooked, namely, that they will henceforward increase their caution and redouble their vigilance, so that no further opportunity may, if possible, be afforded even for an "enemy" to reproach them.

EXCURSION IN SIAM.

(Concluded from p. 57.)

WE now resume our sketch of the late topographical inquiries in Siam.

When the court of Siam had consented to the release of the Burman prisoners, it was thought advisable to send them back in charge of some confidential person attached to the mission, in order to secure their ready and safe return. Accordingly, the first detachment, consisting of between 500 and 600 persons, proceeded under the superintendence of Mr. Leal, the interpreter; who, on his journey to the Tenasserim coast, and on his return to Bangkok, by way of Martaban, had an opportunity of visiting the whole of the Siamese frontier, and making himself acquainted with the topography of a tract of country almost new to European investigation.

The party left Bangkok on the 13th. February 1826, in six junks. They sailed from the bar on the 23d, and on the 1st of March reached Bangnarom, a place on the west coast of the Gulf of Siam, in about lat. $11^{\circ} 50'$; from hence the route proceeded overland.

The first day's march was in the early part over an indifferent road, but the greater part was good, with pools of water at different places; the second was also over a good road, and terminated at a place where it branched off in two different directions, the right leading to Bangtha-phan, the left to Mergui, and distinguished by two large trees, one on the Mergui road, marked with two large crosses, and the other on the Bangtha-phan road, with four.

On the third day's march, the people suffered much inconvenience from want of water, not a drop of which was encountered. Early on the morning of the fourth, water was met with: the road here again divided into two, one leading to the E. the other S.S.E.; the latter terminating abruptly at a short distance; the former continuing to Mergui, and marked by a large stone.

The fifth day's march, on the 4th March, came early to the foot of the Kasoon mountain, along the skirts of which ran a small rivulet: the mountain was steep, and the ascent and descent occupied the greater part of a fatiguing day. By nine o'clock on the morning of the following day the party arrived at the boundary of the Burman and Siamese states, marked by three tamarind trees: the place is said to be called Sing-khon-tha-pe. In the afternoon they halted at a pagoda, where the Burmese offered their adorations.

The next day's march continued, throughout the day, along a good road to the banks of the Tenasserim river, where the party constructed seventy-five bamboo floats for the purpose of completing the journey by water: according to

to impressions received on the spot, the river here was thought to be the main branch; but according to the assertions of the more intelligent among the Burmans, it is but a branch of the Tenasserim river. The passage down the stream was very tardy, being much obstructed by trees in the river. On the afternoon of the third day, a fishing-boat was seen and despatched to Mergui, where the party arrived on the fifth day of their voyage, the 15th March, having lost four children and boys on the journey.

The party, allowing for the detention of three days at Bangnarom, and of the greater portion of the fourth and eighth day's route, whilst engaged in ascertaining the direction of the road, and constructing bamboo floats, was about sixteen days passing from the bar of the Menam to Mergui; but their progress was necessarily slow, owing to the number of women and children; and we understand that the Kasoon hill might have been crossed at a more easy pass. There are two instances on record of the journey, between the old capital of Siam and Mergui, when the French occupied it, having been made in ten days, and on one of these occasions the party consisted of prisoners in chains, escorted by a detachment of Siamese soldiers. The late King of Siam is said, about thirty-three years ago, to have constructed the military road from Bangnarom towards Mergui, for the purpose of invading the Burmese territories: the road is described to admit elephants, and even wheel-carriages. But in former times there appears to have been a carriage road between the Gulf of Siam and Tenasserim, as in a letter from the Bishop of Tabraca, from Siam, in 1761, we find the following passage: "*J'ai envoyé M. Martin (à Merguy). Il alla jusqu'à Piply, on l'on a coutume de quitter les batteaux, et y attendit inutilement, les charettes, pendant trois semaines.*" Piply is the Siamese Phrighri, a large town on the west coast of the Gulf of Siam, in about lat. $13^{\circ} 20'$, and once the capital of the Siamese empire. It is to be hoped, that our officers at Mergui will shortly be able to re-open and re-establish these old and almost forgotten roads into the rich kingdom of Siam, and thus revive the ancient and valuable commerce which was conducted with Siam through this channel, first by the Portuguese, and afterwards by the French.

From Mergui Mr. Leal proceeded to Tavai, by sea, and was thence sent back by the commissioner, with instructions to proceed to the Siamese station, on the other side of the peninsula at C'hoomphon, to deliver a number of Siamese prisoners, and receive charge of the Burmese still detained there. He accordingly started from Mergui on the 23d March, with twelve Burman boats, and four others, containing 109 Siamese prisoners, and reached the mouth of the Pak-cham river on the 25th: he rowed up the river on the following day, and arrived at Pak-cham on the afternoon of the 26th. Mr. Leal describes the river as of considerable size. The exact site and proper name of this river are yet unknown, as the coast between it and Mergui has never been surveyed. The Pak-cham river is separated from the C'hoomphon river by a very small interval of level ground, and it is said that, during the spring tides, the two rivers often unite: the former is, throughout, broad and deep, and the latter flows in a sandy bed. Both are free from rocks. It seems, therefore, probable, that they might be formed into one with little or no difficulty; and a short and direct communication would thus be formed across the peninsula, between the bay of Bengal and the Gulf of Siam. From Pak-cham Mr. Leal proceeded across the country to C'hoomphon, in the vicinity of which he arrived on the afternoon of the second day. Although accompanied by only thirty-eight Burmans, his appearance caused a considerable sensation. He was met, on starting, by three Siamese, sent to ascertain the object of his coming. At night

night he was joined by a chief, with about 700 followers, all armed, who left him after learning his destination: on the following morning he was met by the Deputy-Governor, with 3,000 men, who requested him to halt till the afternoon, when a place would be prepared for his reception. Having acceded to this proposal, Mr. Leal suspended his journey till the hour agreed on, when he proceeded, and came to a field, where he again met the Deputy-Governor, with two other officers, and about 8,000 Siamese troops, armed in various ways, and variously habited in red, green, and white uniforms. They informed Mr. Leal that the Governor was absent, but had been apprized of his arrival, and was expected immediately, till when they would attend to his wishes. They gave him a small hut to occupy without the city, but on the day following announced that a place was ready for his accommodation in C'hoomphon: a violent rain, however, having detained him till two o'clock, it was then announced that the Governor had arrived and was ready to receive him. On being informed of the object of the mission, he stated that the Burman prisoners had been sent back, and intimated that some delay was likely to occur before a house in the town could be prepared for the reception of the messenger. The meaning of this being justly understood to be a reluctance to admit the party into C'hoomphon, Mr. Leal thought it unnecessary to delay his return, and set out for Pak-cham on the following day. He arrived there on the afternoon of the 31st, and reached Mergui, by water, on the 3d of April. He found that only fifty-nine of the Burman prisoners had arrived, but the rest, to the number of 237, gradually returned, having been sent round a month's journey, by way of Bangnarom, instead of the direct and easy route of a week or ten days from Pakcham, to Mergui.

Having next set off for Martaban by sea, and arrived there on the 21st April, Mr. Leal next departed from thence for Bangkok. He embarked in boats on the Uttaran river, on the 24th, accompanied by twenty Mons, or Peguers, and three Burmans. On the 25th he arrived at Meuang Uttaran, and the river of Khlong Bangwilai, where he passed the night. On the 26th he passed Khlong Peli, and on the 27th halted at a place called Phra Mongue, after encountering some difficulties on the road. On the 28th he reached Khlong Mykut, where teak grows in considerable quantities, and whence it is transported down the Uttaran to Martaban. On the 29th, at an early hour, the party reached Khlong Mysikleet, where they rested, having experienced much fatigue. On the 30th, after passing a portion of the river, very difficult from rocks and shallows, they came to Mykesath, where the Siamese troops were posted, and where the navigation up the Uttaran terminates. From hence they proceeded by land, on the 1st May, starting at three in the morning. At ten they came to the place where there are three shapeless piles of stones, usually known as the three pagodas, the boundary between the Burman and Siamese territories in this direction, and denominated by the latter Phra-chaidi Sam-ong, and by the former Kioc-pie. The precise position of these landmarks is yet to be ascertained, as different observers have placed them at the distance of more than one degree of latitude, and nearly one in longitude; the average seems to be about N. 15° 6', and E. 99° 7'. In the afternoon of the same day Mr. Leal reached Sungola, a place containing 150 persons, at the head of the Me-khlong river, on the eastern bank: a Siamese guard is situated here, of about 100 men, mostly natives of Pegu.

On the following day, the 2d May, the party, after a very fatiguing journey, reached the fort of Loom-chhang, occupied by a guard of Peguers. It is a place of some traffic, a number of boats being found here, large and small; the trade is carried on with the people of the plains in cotton, cloth, bees' wax,

wax, ivory, sapan-wood, honey, buffaloes' and deers' hides and horns, tigers' skins, cardamoms, &c. Three rivers meet here, one from Songola, the Mekhlong, one coming from the S.W., the Thadin-deng, and one, the Alantay, running from the north of east.

Two boats were here procured, and the journey proceeded down the Mekhlong river. Several floats and canoes going to Bangkok, were passed on the first day's progress: the navigation of the river was difficult and laborious. Early on the third day the party arrived at Menam-noi, a place of some importance, where the Siamese, in the late war, constructed two forts, and stationed their army under the Maha Yotha, or "illustrious warrior," Rong-na-rong, corruptly denominated Rown-Rown. The employment of this force, whilst cantoned here, was rather unmilitary, as the men were exercised chiefly in cultivating cotton, of which the finest description produced in Siam grows about Menam-noi. They were also employed in cutting sapan-wood and timber for the state boats. There is no teak in this part of the country. At a short distance above Menam-noi is the post of Chaiyok, which seems to be the Daraik of some maps, and from whence the land journey to Tavai commences. It leads over the mountains, and through thick forests, and is exceedingly laborious: the distance, however, is inconsiderable. Two sepoys of the 25th battalion Native Infantry, who volunteered to convey the envoy's despatches from Bangkok, were eight days passing from Chaiyok to Tavai, and returning thence.

After some little detention at Menam-noi by the military authorities, Mr. Leal was suffered to proceed, and in the evening passed the post of Thatuko. On the following day he passed a village called Sam-sing, where lay many vessels loading with sapan-wood. At noon he reached the military station of Dan-clai, and about three in the afternoon Ban-chiom, at the junction of the Sissovat with the Mekhlong: the former comes from the north. The town is of some importance, containing about 5,000 inhabitants, chiefly Peguers. He stopped in the evening at Pakphrek, a still more considerable town, having a population of about 8,000 Siamese. It is sometimes also called Kan-boori: the former town of that name, which stood at the head of the Sissovat river, was destroyed by the Burmans in their invasion of Siam in 1766.

On the next day Mr. Leal, continuing his voyage, passed Rat-phri and Ban-chhang. An attempt was made to detain him at the former place, which he resolutely resisted; and forced his passage. Rat-phri has a population of about 10,000. Ban-chhang, the Ban-xang of the *Lettres Edifiantes*, is said to contain a population of about 4,000, chiefly Chinese.

On the 8th May the party passed Mekhlong, at the mouth of the river of the same name, having about 13,000 inhabitants, Siamese and Chinese, and a place of considerable traffic. From hence the route proceeded across the mouth of the Tha-chin river, which debouches into the sea at the same place as the Mekhlong: the intervening tract is inhabited by Peguers, principally, to the number of 16,000 persons. The upper part of the Tha-chin, as its name denotes, is occupied almost entirely by Chinese, who are engaged in the manufacture of sugar. Lakhon Chhaisa is the name of the principal place of this manufacture. At, or a little above, the mouth of the Tha-chin, a small river or canal, the Khlong Menang Luang, connects that stream with the Menam at Bangkok. Starting after midnight, with the flood tide, Mr. Leal reached the Menam about three o'clock, having thus crossed the Siamese frontier in three different places, and traversed a considerable portion of the peninsula, where no European had preceded him.*

* From the Calcutta Government Gazette of February 8th.

Review of Books.

Two Years in Ava ; from May 1824 to May 1826. By an Officer on the Staff of the Quarter-Master General's Department. London, 1827.

THE writer of this work is understood to be Capt. Trant. Having the misfortune to be posterior in date to that of Major Snodgrass, who had, moreover, much better opportunities of procuring information respecting the military transactions, at least, in that quarter, the present publication is not likely to attract that attention, which it deserves notwithstanding the modest pretensions of the author. It furnishes not a little new matter, since it touches upon topics which Major Snodgrass did not propose to notice.

In laying before our readers a slight analysis of this work, we shall abstain from the military details, which have been already before them in various shapes. Professional readers doubtless are pleased to see the same operations described by different eye-witnesses, because they obtain thereby a more accurate and circumstantial idea of the minutiae; but it is unnecessary to repeat them here.

If the fact of the deliberate intention of the Burmese court to make war upon the British territories in India required confirmation, this work would amply supply it. Maha Bundoolah was a principal member of the cabal intent upon war, consisting besides of the Queen, to whom the King was quite subservient; her brother, Prince Menzaghee, to whose influence she was nearly as much subjected. "These personages had been elevated to their high station from the very lowest class of the people, with no good quality or any distinguished talent to recommend them; but they were versed in the art of intrigue, and by a successful co-operation of their abilities in that respect, had so effectually taken possession of the King's judgment, that no act of his authority could take effect unless revised and sanctioned by their concurrence in it." By this cabal Bundoolah had received secret instructions to invade Bengal, and to bring the Governor-general in fetters to Ummerapoora; for which purpose, when he entered Arracan, this chief took with him a pair of golden fetters to bind his captive! Through the influence of the Queen's creatures the cabal was able to keep the King ignorant of the disasters which befel his army; for no communication could reach his ears without its being previously prepared by his artful wife and her brother.

In despotic governments like this (observes the author) where unlimited power is vested in the sovereign, and he is difficult of access, his favourites become the only medium of communication between him and his people; they are the channels through which all benefits flow, and whence all punishments proceed; and to them naturally all requests or supplications are made, which are granted or not according to the wealth and consideration of the petitioners. Courts of this description must be the seats of anarchy and confusion, the prey of two or three individuals or cabals whose interests are constantly jarring, and who disagree in every point except that of keeping the sovereign in perfect ignorance of every thing going forward, and only allowing him to take a deceptive look at his affairs as seen through their corrupted medium.

In the progress of his details of the military events, the author takes occasion to relate some amusing instances of the skill and dexterity of the Burmese in the art of thieving. In dark nights, they would crawl close up to the sentinels before they were discovered; sometimes they carried off knapsacks and arms unperceived. On the night of the 28th August 1824, when the post

at the Great Dagon pagoda was assailed by the *invulnerables*, who were repelled, whilst a picquet of 100 sepoy, who were likewise attacked, were drawn up to receive the Burmahs in front, some of the latter contrived to creep into the rear, and enter the house which the picquet occupied, from whence (whilst their comrades were exchanging shots with the sepoy) they carried off the latter's knapsacks. But a more laughable instance occurred on a previous occasion (2 July) at the Great Pagoda :

The soldiers, for several nights previous, had missed some arms, although a sentry was before the door, and they generally slept with their firelocks by their side. This evening every one was on the alert, extra sentries were posted, and every precaution taken to secure the marauders. When, on a sudden, the alarm being given, the officer on duty, who was reposing in one of the little temples, ran to the door and inquired what had occurred ; but hearing that only a knapsack had been found in the grass, and that no other traces existed of the depredators, he turned round to lie down again, and to his infinite astonishment found his bed had vanished ! A light was in the room and a servant sleeping near it, yet, notwithstanding, the impudent thieves had also ransacked a basket and escaped with the contents.

The description of Pegu (*Bagoo* as it is generally pronounced by the natives), not eighty years since, one of the finest cities of the east, the residence of a long race of kings—it is painful to read, and leaves a mournful impression of the desolating agency of war. Its splendour is now shrouded in rubbish ; the houses are a straggling line of huts ; “the only striking object within a vast area of four miles, the limits of which were clearly defined by the line of ramparts, being that far-famed temple, the Shoemadoo.”

At Sarawah, the British troops found, in rummaging the houses, a book which may be esteemed, considering the place of its deposit, a great curiosity. It was “A Plain and Simple Exposition of the Tenets of the Christian Faith,” in the Latin and Burman languages, and printed at the press of the Society for the Propagation of the True Faith at Rome, in 1735. It is supposed to have been introduced here by some Italian missionaries, who were settled in Ava and taught the Latin tongue. Mr. Gibson, a native of Madras, born of an English man and a native woman, who had long resided in Ava, and was employed by the Burman court in situations of trust (for example, as ambassador to Cochin China), was taught Latin by one of these priests. The author speaks very highly of this individual, who is now dead. “Gibson,” he says, “was a man of extraordinary natural genius, and although his education had taken place in Ava, he had continued [contrived?] to learn and speak English, Portuguese, a little French, and almost all the oriental dialects ; he had read works on ancient history, and possessed a fund of general knowledge which was quite surprising.”

The author relates a curious incident which occurred at the siege of Donabew, or, as he writes it, *Denobiu*.

After General Cotton's unsuccessful attack, a very gross attempt was made by the Bundoolah to outwit him. He sent down a small canoe containing two or three Burmahs, who professed themselves deputed by some of the principal chiefs in *Denobiu* to inform the General, that if he would come up and attack the stockade on a certain day, they would rise in his favour, and, setting fire to the houses inside, so distract the attention of the enemy, that he would experience but little difficulty in getting in. This shallow artifice was easily seen through, and before the messengers departed, full proof was obtained of the real object of the mission. One of the Burmahs struck the fancy of a jolly tar, who was present, and either from good-nature or mere frolic, went up to him and said, “Jack, will you drink a glass of grog?” To the astonishment of

of all the spectators, the Burmah answered in capital English: "No, I thank you, Sir." This immediately led to his apprehension, when he confessed that he had been educated by one of the King's linguists, and had acquired a considerable knowledge of the English language: the Bundoolah, therefore, desired him, on this occasion, to accompany the other Burmahs to the English fleet, and, while seemingly inattentive, gather all the intelligence he could from the conversation of the bystanders.

On the arrival of the British army at Prome they had freer intercourse with the natives, who seem to have been delighted with the glimpse of liberty which they enjoyed during the presence of their invaders. Our author has given some agreeable sketches of the character, manners, and amusements of the Burmese, which he was enabled to draw whilst at this city, and at Terree-kettree, or Issay Mew, six miles distant. This last was formerly an immense city; its ruins attest its antiquity, and there are in it two huge masses of brick of a conical shape, about 200 feet high, "perfectly similar to some of the ancient Hindoo religious buildings." There is a legend respecting the origin of Issay Mew which accords precisely with the ancient account of the foundation of Carthage: the two stories must have had one common source.

Our author, like preceding writers, depicts the Burmahs in favourable colours. Chastity is a scarce quality among the women, but the want of it is accounted no defect; and marriage, in fact, is a mere civil compact, without any religious, and with scarcely any other ceremonies. A husband makes no scruple of surrendering his wife, or a brother his sister, to the pleasure of a stranger, for money, and the lady's honour is no wise tainted. This is a peculiarity not a little remarkable in Burmese manners, considering the affinity of the nation, in many respects, to the Hindoos and other neighbours, whose jealousy on this head is most tender and scrupulous. It is likewise singularly at variance with the regulation by which women are prohibited from leaving the kingdom. Surely, with the latitude allowed them in Ava, this law was superfluous.

Most nations have some eccentricity of taste in respect to female charms. The Burmahs, it appears, esteem the turning of the inside of the elbow out, as if dislocated, to be the *ne plus ultra* of beauty. The girls from the earliest age are taught this accomplishment; and in all statues and drawings of women they are thus represented.

The men are a fine, athletic race; very muscular and well-proportioned, though not tall. Their demeanour is marked by an elasticity of step and dignity of look which denote their self-confidence: "a young Burman dandy, with his handkerchief fantastically wound in his long black hair, his dashing silk loonghee tied round the waist, and the graceful tartan scarf (*pussah*) thrown carelessly over his shoulder, and much resembling the Highland plaid, is really a fine figure to contemplate."

The author speaks well of the musical talents of the Burmahs, who are fond of singing, with which they accompany some of their exercises. The boat-song, he says, is remarkably striking. He has given the notes of this song, and of two Burman airs. He says: "I have sometimes heard a trio sung in parts by three young girls with a correctness of ear and voice which would do credit to others than the self-taught Burmahs." Yet our music had no charms for them; and Rossini's beautiful compositions, performed by the British bands, were so much sweetness wasted upon the desert air.

The drama appears to be a favourite amusement amongst the Burmahs; and where is it otherwise? The *dramatis personæ* of their plays are few in number; in most there is a prince, a confidant, a buffoon or two, and a due proportion

portion of female characters, which are represented by boys dressed like women. The plays are followed by dancing, in which the performers, who are young women, move in a voluptuous manner, like the Nautch girls of Hindostan.

Caste, it is well known, does not exercise its mischievous influence in Ava. All are welcome to a Burmah's table, where animal food is not banished: nay, it is admitted with too little discrimination. Horse-flesh is eaten there; and upon the occasion of a mortality amongst the horses of the artillery and body-guard, our author says: "no sooner had the animals breathed their last, than you would see them surrounded by groups of Burmahs, waiting, like harpies, to pounce upon their prey. The instant permission was given them, men, women, and children, commenced dissecting the carcase, and cutting the flesh into strips (which were afterwards hung in the sun to dry), soon left nothing but the skeleton, which, in turn, was attacked and picked by a host of half-famished Pariah dogs." Their common beverage is water; they do not milk their cows. Spirits are prohibited, but ~~fire~~, nevertheless, much relished; they distil a strong liquor from rice, and also use toddy. Brandy and gin were more acceptable to them, from the British, as a reward for exertion, than money. Sheep are not met with in Ava; it is said that there is but one flock in the country, which belongs to the King.

Of the climate of Ava, our author gives the following favourable account :

It may seem very presumptuous to assert that the country in which we had lost already 2,500 British soldiers by disease, should be of a salubrious climate; yet, I believe, it is generally acknowledged that Ava is much healthier than the greater part of Hindostan, except in the vicinity of swamps and inundations. The loss of our men is easily accounted for, when it is recollected the hard duty they were obliged to perform, their constant exposure to the sun and rain, and the bad quality of their food; but it is very certain that the sun here has not the same overpowering influence on the constitution as on the other side of the Ganges. At Prome, and during the march, we were constantly walking or riding in the sun, at all hours, without umbrellas, and with the thermometer sometimes as high as 110° Fahrenheit, in a tent; and still it had not even the effect of giving a head-ache; whereas, had we done so in India, a fever would have been the inevitable consequence.

The uncommon richness of the soil, and the rapid growth of vegetation, to the southward of Prome, and indeed throughout Pegu, cover the ground with wood and jungle in a short space of time. In the plains which have been cleared of wood rice grows luxuriantly; the soil is so easily worked, that a rough harrow drawn by two buffaloes, or occasionally a still ruder plough, is the only implement of husbandry required. When the earth is thus partially broken, the paddy is sprinkled over the field, and left untouched till sufficiently strong to be regularly planted. Such is the simple system of agriculture in that country, where, our author observes, nature has done every thing, man nothing!

On the subject of the population our author is in accordance with all recent writers, who assert that the number of inhabitants in the Burmese empire has been greatly over-rated. He had ample opportunity of observing the scantiness of the population, even in the best peopled districts, and calculates that the aggregate population of Ava, which Col. Symes computed at seventeen millions, does not amount at the utmost to six. He explains the mode in which Symes was deceived by the returns, which contain the names of villages the inhabitants of which had emigrated to other spots (for in Ava there is

none of that local attachment which weds other nations to the spot of birth; so that places, and consequently persons, were reckoned twice over.

Our author conceives that this vagrant mode of life on the part of the Burman villagers is connected with the manners of their ancestors, the Tartars; but Mr. Alexander* has assigned a sufficient reason for it in the absurd law of the country, by which no person below a certain rank is permitted to erect a durable habitation. Slight huts like theirs are easily destroyed by fire or other causes; hence the villagers have frequently to rebuild their habitations, and for this purpose they are obliged to change the spot, in order to procure materials more readily.

The form of government in Ava, though despotic, has some appearance of, or resemblance to, a liberal scheme; it comprehends a legislative body distinct from the crown. The Lootoo, or council of state, is composed of four woonghees, four woondocks, four saradoghees, and four nakhandohs. This body our author supposes to be "well calculated to temper and modify the overbearing commands of a half civilized tyrant." The woonghees, however, appear to have the sole sway in this council. The woondocks may give their opinions, but they have no vote; and the saradoghees and nakhandohs are merely officers; the former secretaries, and the latter reporters.

The privy council, which in a great measure controls the Lootoo, consists of an indefinite number of attweynwoons, or ministers of the interior, who have constant access to the King, and whose actual power and influence is greater than a woonghee's, although their official rank is inferior. An attweynwoon always attends the King, who, when he issues an order, gives it to the attweynwoon, who delivers it to his sandozain, or royal writer (always in attendance); the latter writes it down, and passes it to a nakhandoh, of whom there is always one in waiting, whose office it is to transmit the order to the woondocks in the Lootoo. If it is a matter of importance (for the woondocks have the power of deciding in minor cases), the woondocks present it to the woonghees, and when their *consent* is obtained (which, we apprehend, is very rarely refused) the order has the force of a law, and is published. The system is a theory of a more liberal character than eastern governments usually offer:

In this distribution of the cares of government (observes our author) there is a salutary and judicious check on the despotism of the sovereign, which, in fact, places the system on a more liberal footing than it might be supposed would prove acceptable to an eastern despot; for although laws emanate from him, they are subject to the sanction of the two councils, who, if they disapprove of the measures in agitation, refer the proposals back to the King, with a respectful remonstrance that they do not think them calculated to prove beneficial to the country. It is true that if the king does not admit of the objection, the orders must be published; but still the delay attendant on discussion is serviceable, as it allows time for the King to cool and deliberate upon the steps he may have taken when acting under the influence of an ungovernable fit of passion. Very seldom, however, do the members of the court presume to dispute the wisdom of their sovereign's mandates.

No salaries are paid to the chiefs about the court, or to the maywoons, or viceroys of provinces. All have grants of land assigned them for their support, whereby the people are surrendered to the merciless oppression of petty tyrants. The effects of this execrable system is shewn in an example stated by the author: "If an order arrive from the court to the maywoon of a district, directing him to levy 20,000 ticals on his vassals, he will call together the superior chieftains under him, and direct them to raise 25,000; they again,

assemble

assemble the mughis and chiefs of the small villages, and assess them according to their size, so that the sum may amount to 30,000 ticals; and these minor harpies, in procuring from their villages the money required, demand probably a half more to enrich themselves." Thus the peasant pays perhaps double the amount of the tax. This is a system which has prevailed in other parts of the east; precisely such an abuse was complained of by one of the Dutch ministers of Ceylon, when that island was in possession of the Hollanders. The chieftains, it appears, hold their lands by a military tenure like that of the feudal system; they are bound to attend in the field, when called upon, with a certain number of their retainers.

Titles and honours are not hereditary in Ava; the road to distinction is open to all, and is generally followed with more success by people of intriguing character than by those of talent and information.

The royal revenue is derived from a tenth of every article of produce, as well as a tenth imposed upon foreign articles imported, which is taken in kind. Sudden emergencies and special calls for money are met by imposts upon the people, for the royal treasuries are sacred: should a minister presume to hint that the wealth which has been accumulating for ages in the royal coffers, and which is often wasted upon frivolous objects, would be beneficially applied to public purposes, the insult could be expiated only by death or disgrace. Can we wonder at the condition in which the Burmese provinces were found, under such a system?

The author has added some remarks upon the religious system of the Burmahs, but there is nothing very new or very specious in them; and his account of their arts, &c. contains little or nothing not already known.

The remainder of the work consists chiefly of military details, except the last chapter, which contains the interesting account of the journey across the Arracan mountains, performed by Capt. Ross in March 1826, of which a copious abstract has already appeared in our Journal.*

The author of this work has deemed it necessary to say something of the cause of hostilities, the question as to the ground of war, the conduct of the contest, and the mode in which it was terminated, by the British commander's consent to a treaty of the same tenor as that which had been agreed to when the affairs of the Burmese were in a less desperate condition, although the British troops were at so short a distance from the capital. Notwithstanding that the writer has shewn, in several passages of his work, where he indulges in animadversions upon the directing powers, that he is by no means improperly biassed in their favour, his verdict respecting the points referred to is highly favourable to the much abused and insulted local government of India. He declares, nay, his work abundantly proves, that there was no avoiding hostilities, which were meditated, and in fact determined upon, by the despicable cabal which constituted the *de facto* government of Ava, long before the invasion of Shapuree.

It must excite some mortification in the minds of our croaking politicians, who made such miserable exposures of their own ignorance and incompetence, at the very time they were publicly taxing Lord Amherst with those defects, to find not merely that the result has disappointed and contradicted their prognostications, but that every intelligent eye-witness of the transactions in Ava absolutely demonstrates that their sagacious hypotheses must have had no other foundation besides mere conjecture or malicious suggestions. Mr. Hume

will

* See vol. xxiii. p. 14.

will probably by this time think that his benevolent ardour to promote the cultivation of eastern languages in this country, and the interests of a deserving individual, carried him beyond the limits prescribed by sound judgment, when he declared "the more firmly to support his argument," that "he had been informed by a person of *undoubted veracity*, that the present Burmese war had arisen *entirely* out of a misunderstanding originating from a want of a competent knowledge of the Hindoostanee (Burmese?) language!"*

The Pelican Island, and other Poems. By JAMES MONTGOMERY. London, 1827.

THERE are few of our living poets who discover more feeling than Mr. Montgomery. His genius is not of an ambitious character; and he has most judiciously confined its efforts to subjects which do not demand "thoughts that breathe and words that burn," but are adapted to the display of tenderness, benevolence, and that pleasing strain of piety which, whilst it never offends the most secular tastes, infuses warmth into the style, and gives a keener point to the poet's moral.

"The Pelican Island" is a peculiar production; in origin as well as in execution it bears decided testimony to the poetic talents of its author. It is delightful to observe from what a minute seed the rich and genial soil of a poet's imagination can raise up a mighty tree, in which the fowls of the air may find shelter. The subject of the poem was suggested, Mr. Montgomery tells us, by a passage in Captain Flinders' account of his voyage to Terra Australis, in which he speaks of a small island, one of the many clusters which are found on the coast of New Holland, where multitudes of pelicans were seen, young and old; and "from the number of skeletons and bones there scattered," says the navigator, "it should seem that for ages these islands had been selected for the closing scene of their existence." From this slight hint, Mr. Montgomery has constructed a singularly fanciful and beautiful little poem, abounding with descriptions highly poetic, and with passages replete with pathos.

It is almost impossible to afford an outline of the story, which, in fact, is nearly in the rude form of first conception, and would be unintelligible in prose, beyond this simple statement, that an imaginary being, of whom the reader is permitted to form no distinct idea whatever, is supposed to have seen in succession, and to describe, the whole circle of irrational creation, animate and inanimate,

From the elephant
Down to the worm, thence to the zoophyte,
That link which binds Prometheus to his rock,
The living fibre to insensate matter.

The Pelican Island, supposed to be a coral mass, gradually covered with vegetation and teeming with living creatures, comes incidentally under review, but is not necessarily connected with the subject. There seems some impropriety in this want of relation between the poem and its title.

Our office must, therefore, be merely to adduce examples from the poem in support of the favourable character we have given to it. We shall begin by quoting a passage wherein the poet describes (avowedly from an account in Captain Basil Hall's voyage to the Island of Loochoo) the formation of coral reefs and islands in the eastern seas:

Here, on a stony eminence, that stood,
Girt with inferior ridges, at the point,

Where

Where light and darkness meet in spectral gloom,
 Midway between the height and depth of ocean,
 I mark'd a whirlpool in perpetual play,
 As though the mountain were itself alive,
 And catching prey on every side, with feelers
 Countless as sunbeams, slight as gossamer :
 Ere long transfigured, each fine film became
 An independent creature, self-employ'd,
 Yet but an agent in one common work,
 The sum of all their individual labours,
 Shapeless they seem'd, but endless shapes assumed ;
 Elongated like worms, they writhed and shrunk
 Their tortuous bodies to grotesque dimensions ;
 Compress'd like wedges, radiated like stars,
 Branching like sea-weed, whirl'd in dazzling rings ;
 Subtle and variable as flickering flames,
 Sight could not trace their evanescent changes,
 Nor comprehend their motions, till minute
 And curious observation caught the clew
 To this live labyrinth,—where every one,
 By instinct taught, perform'd its little task ;
 —To build its dwelling and its sepulchre,
 From its own essence exquisitely modell'd ;
 There breed, and die, and leave a progeny,
 Still multiplied beyond the reach of numbers,
 To frame new cells and tombs ; then breed and die
 As all their ancestors had done,—and rest,
 Hermetically seal'd, each in its shrine,
 A statue in this temple of oblivion !
 Millions of millions thus, from age to age,
 With simplest skill, and toil unwearyable,
 No moment and no movement unimproved,
 Laid line on line, on terrace terrace spread,
 To swell the heightening, brightening gradual mound,
 By marvellous structure climbing tow'rd the day.
 Each wrought alone, yet all together wrought,
 Unconscious, not unworthy, instruments,
 By which a hand invisible was rearing
 A new creation in the secret deep.
 Omnipotence wrought in them, with them, by them ;
 Hence what Omnipotence alone could do
 Worms did. I saw the living pile ascend,
 The mausoleum of its architects,
 Still dying upwards as their labours closed :
 Slime the material, but the slime was turn'd
 To adamant, by their petrific touch ;
 Frail were their frames, ephemeral their lives,
 Their masonry imperishable. All
 Life's needful functions, food, exertion, rest,
 By nice economy of Providence
 Were overruled to carry on the process,
 Which out of water brought forth solid rock.

The comparison instituted between the labours of these minute architects and the wonders of Babylon and Egypt, skilfully drawn by Mr. Montgomery, is humiliating to the mind.

The slaughter committed by the pelicans on the finny tribe around the island, suggests the following reflection :

Harsh seems the ordinance, that life by life
Should be sustain'd, and yet when all must die,
And be like water spilt upon the ground,
Which none can gather up,—the speediest fate,
Though violent and terrible, is best.
O with what horrors would creation groan,—
What agonies would ever be before us,
Famine and pestilence, disease, despair,
Anguish and pain in every hideous shape,
Had all to wait the slow decay of Nature !
Life were a martyrdom of sympathy ;
Death, lingering, raging, writhing, shrieking torture ;
The grave would be abolish'd ; this gay world
A valley of dry bones, a Golgotha,
In which the living stumbled o'er the dead,
Till they could fall no more, and blind perdition
Swept frail mortality away for ever.
'Twas wisdom, mercy, goodness, that ordain'd
Life in such infinite profusion,—Death
So sure, so prompt, so multifarious to those
That never sinn'd, that know not guilt, that fear
No wrath to come, and have no heaven to lose.

The description of the habits and pursuits of the brute creation is closed by the following picture of the elephant, in which the author has introduced some pleasing touches :

Calm amidst scenes of havoc, in his own
Huge strength impregnable, the elephant
Offended none, but led his quiet life
Among his old contemporary trees,
Till Nature laid him gently down to rest.
Beneath the palm, which he was wont to make
His prop in slumber ; there his relics lay
Longer than life itself had dwelt within them.
Bees in the ample hollow of his skull
Piled their wax-citadels, and stored their honey ;
Thence sallied forth to forage through the fields,
And swarm'd in emigrating legions thence :
There, little burrowing animals threw up
Hillocks beneath the overarching ribs ;
While birds, within the spinal labyrinth,
Contrived their nests : so wandering Arabs pitch
Their tents amidst Palmyra's palaces ;
So Greek and Roman peasants build their huts
Beneath the shadow of the Parthenon,
Or on the ruins of the capitol.

The human character appears only in its savage state; and thus it affords fine scope for the descriptive pencil of Mr. Montgomery. After drawing in terrific hues the wild man, who "knew not shame nor honour, yet knew pride," he paints, in the following delicate and affecting colours, his weak and oppressed companion :

Woman was here the powerless slave of man ;
Thus fallen Adam tramples fallen Eve,

Through

Through all the generations of his sons,
 In whose barbarian veins the old serpent's venom
 Turns pure affection into hideous lust,
 And wrests the might of his superior arm
 (Given to defend and bless his meek companion)
 Into the very yoke and scourge of bondage;
 Till limbs, by beauty moulded, eyes of gladness,
 And the full bosom of confiding truth,
 Made to delight and comfort him in toil,
 And change care's den into a halcyon's nest,
 —Are broke with drudgery, quench'd with stagnant tears,
 Or wrung with lonely unimparted woe.
 Man is beside himself, not less than fall'n
 Below his dignity, who owns not woman
 As nearer to his heart than when she grew
 A rib within him,—as his heart's own heart.

Yet, 'midst the gall and wormwood of her lot,
 She tasted joys which none but woman knows,
 —The hopes, fears, feelings, raptures of a mother,
 Well-nigh compensating for his unkindness,
 Whom yet with all her fervent soul she loved.
 Dearer to her than all the universe,
 The looks, the cries, the embraces of her babes;
 In each of whom she lived a separate life,
 And felt the fountain, whence their veins were fill'd,
 Flow in perpetual union with the streams,
 That swell'd their pulses, and throbb'd back through hers.
 Oh! 'twas benign relief when my vex'd eye
 Could turn from man, the sordid, selfish savage,
 And gaze on woman in her self-denial,
 To him and to their offspring all alive,
 Dead only to herself,—save when she won
 His unexpected smile; then, then she look'd
 A thousand times more beautiful, to meet
 A glance of aught like tenderness from him;
 And sent the sunshine of her happy heart
 So warm into the charnel-house of his,
 That Nature's genuine sympathies awoke,
 And he almost forgot himself in her.
 O man! lost man! amidst the desolation
 Of goodness in thy soul, there yet remains
 One spark of Deity,—that spark is love.

We could continue our quotations with facility, for there is scarcely a page of the poem which does not furnish some passage or thought remarkable for justness, force, or tenderness. Enough has, however, been adduced to justify us in characterizing the poem as one which, notwithstanding its crudity of design, will add to the reputation of the author.

The volume contains some miscellaneous poems, but none of them call for particular remark.

FOREIGN.

Essai sur l'Origine Unique et Hiéroglyphique des Chiffres et des Lettres de tous les Peuples, &c. précédé d'un coup-d'œil rapide sur l'Histoire du Monde, entre l'Époque de la Création, et l'ère de Nabonassar, et de quelques Idées sur la première de toutes les Ecritures qui exista avant le Déluge, et qui fut Hiéroglyphique. Par M. de PARAVEY. Paris, 1826.

Lettre sur la Découverte des Hiéroglyphes Acrologiques, adressée à M. le Chevalier de Goulianoïff. Par M. Klaproth. Paris, 1827.

THE success of M. Champollion in the new and difficult path of Egyptian literature which he has chosen, has encouraged several others to essay the same course of study. The works at the head of this article are two instances of attempts to rival or supersede M. Champollion. The first is one of the most extraordinary, and, if it could be comprehended, would perhaps prove one of the most amusing books ever published. Its contents are perfectly *new*. The author sets out upon the broad principle that all preceding theories are utterly false. He then proceeds to develop his own, which he labours to uphold by a display of learning, or rather fragments of learning, which reminds us of the witty character given in Shakespeare of a pedant, who "seemed to have been at a great feast of languages and to have stolen the scraps." Amongst other *sage* discoveries of M. Paravey are the following: he maintains that the Egyptian hieroglyphics came originally from Assyria or Central Asia; that the primeval tenants of the earth sent colonies first into China and Egypt, whither they carried their arts and sciences, and amongst the rest hieroglyphics; that the books of China now extant contain accounts of the early patriarchs; that *Fu-hi* is Abel; *Chin-nong*, Seth; *Chao-hao*, Cain, &c.

The theory of MM. Goulianoïff and Klaproth is a little more rational; whether it has better pretensions to supplant that of M. Champollion is another question. The letter promulgates the discovery of a species of hieroglyphics which afford "a new development of the phonetic system, and will serve to elucidate the signs called symbolic, a class of characters," says M. Klaproth, "*où l'on avait voulu voir jusqu'ici, les énigmes les plus savantes et les plus ingénieuses.*"

According to this system, most of the hieroglyphics explained by Horapollon and other ancient writers are nothing less than symbolic or ideographic characters; that the signs mentioned by Horapollon are designed only to denote the initial letter of the word attached to the thing which it was intended to express; or, in the words of the writer, "the figure of any object was traced, the name of which had for its first letter that which was the initial letter of the object secretly meant:" thus if we adopted this method and wished to express a *palace*, we might draw a *pig*; a *cat* might stand for a *chancellor*, or a *kangaroo* for a *king*.

It is not for us to accuse MM. Goulianoïff and Klaproth of plagiarism; but we are obliged to state, in justice to Sir William Drummond, that the discovery, if such it be, was made by that gentleman,* incidentally, indeed, and without any design of superseding the system of M. Champollion.

The two authors have imagined that their discovery is confirmed by a comparison between the hieroglyphics in Horapollon and words in the Coptic language. But we are among the number of those who believe that the Coptic language was not identically the same as that of the Pharaohs. If it were, however, the hypothesis of MM. Goulianoïff and Klaproth would not stand: they have, in short, discovered that they are imperfectly acquainted with this language, and thereby have become the dupes of Kircher, who forged a multitude of Coptic words, some of which these authors have adopted in support of their theory.

Upon the whole, this system, which M. Klaproth considers to be "mathematically demonstrated," and to "exclude every species of doubt," appears to us too *puerile* to deserve attention.

* *Origines*, vol. II., pp. 436, 437.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

DESIDERATA AND INQUIRIES CONNECTED WITH THE PRESIDENCIES OF
MADRAS AND BOMBAY.

THE objects of the council of the Royal Asiatic Society in circulating the accompanying collection of desiderata and inquiries are, to excite orientalists to furnish replies; to obtain additional inquiries connected with Madras and Bombay; and to procure materials for compiling a more extensive collection of inquiries relating to Bengal and our other Asiatic possessions.

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Fac-similes of ancient inscriptions, with translations and alphabets of their characters.

Well-written alphabets of all the modern languages.

(It is certain that the Hindu languages of the south of India are not derived from the Sanscrit; and it is a tradition, which this circumstance confirms, that the Brahmans, with their religion and language, came from the north. The question regarding the time when the *Vadamozhi*, or northern tongue (the Sanscrit), was introduced, is one of great interest.)

A comparison of the different languages of the south, and an examination of what they have borrowed from the Sanscrit, with an accurate account of the geographical limits of these languages.

Which is the most ancient character in use in the south of India?

Is there any trace of a language which may be considered the parent of those now existing in Southern India? If so, what is its name? Where was it vernacular? And how far has it entered into the formation of the other peninsular languages?

Does the *Purúda Hale Canada* answer in any degree this description? Some account of this language, with a well-written alphabet of its characters, as appearing in inscriptions, it is believed, may be obtained from learned Jaina Brahmans. One of this sect, employed by Col. Mackenzie, thoroughly understood it; and, if still living, might probably furnish the information here desired.

Copies and translations of the inscriptions at the caves of Kenera, in the island of Salsette, which are probably in this

character, might be useful for this purpose.

Notices and catalogues raisonnées of libraries at native courts, in pagodas, &c.; accounts of their foundation; how they are maintained; whether additions of books are occasionally made to them, and by what means they are obtained.

HISTORY.

The ancient history, state, and institutions of the south of India, might be illustrated by materials of various descriptions in the hands of the natives, and especially by MSS. relating to the ancient government of the *Pándiyan*, *Chola*, and *Chera* dynasties: (such MSS. are believed to exist in the Tanjore country, at Trivallur, Combaconam, Seringam, Chillumbram, and in the Tondeman's country.)

By genealogies of the several dynasties and considerable families:

By chronologies, registers, and records, sometimes preserved by official persons:

By prophecies, conveying, under that disguise, historical information with more freedom than would be permitted in any other form by Asiatic sovereigns:

By tales and popular stories, sometimes containing correct accounts of remarkable characters and events: (the *Mahratta* *Bakirs* are of this description.)

By historical notices of changes of government, and of facts connected with local establishments: (these are occasionally to be found in the ancient financial records.)

In the temples and *Agrahárams* of the Brahmans, the *Matts* of the *Jangam* priests of the *Lingavant* sect, and the *Basis* and temples of the *Juinas*, two species of records were kept;—

1st. The *Mahatyams*, or religious legends, which appear to consist of passages extracted from the *Puránams* applicable to the local circumstances of the establishments;

2d. The *Stalla Puránams*, which are carried from the earlier periods of real history to modern times. The latter detail the dates of the several grants to the pagodas, *Agrahárams*, &c., the immuni-

ties and benefactions granted, and the benefactors' names, titles, and genealogies. Considerable information may be derived from these two classes of documents; and there is reason to think that some of the most correct of them are still preserved by the *Jainas* and *Jangams*.

Historical accounts of the erection of religious and charitable edifices.

In the province of Tanjore there are many Jainas, principally Shroffs, and two or three ancient Jaina temples. There are also some Jaina temples in the neighbourhood of Cānjavarām; and in all likelihood, on inquiry, they will be found to exist in the Mysore, in Canara, and in many other parts of the territories under the Madras government. It is probable that, by an examination of the records and traditions in these temples, some authentic information may be obtained of the overthrow of the sect of Jaina, and the substitution of the Brahmanical system, as the tradition of the terrible and exterminating persecution which the Jainas suffered many ages past is still kept alive amongst them.

A history of the provinces of Tinnevely and Madura, and of the erection of the several pagodas and forts in those provinces.

A correct history of the race of princes who reigned south of the Colerun is much wanted. The name of *Trimāl Naic* is rendered memorable from his magnificence, his able civil policy, and splendid religious establishments. More than fifty temples erected by him throughout Madura and Tinnevely, in situations most judiciously selected, attest his piety, wealth, and taste; and it is supposed that many interesting particulars of his history might be collected in those provinces.

Can any connexion be traced between the princes of the *Chola* and *Pāndiyan* dynasties and the sovereigns of the Malayālam country? The name *Sheran*, stated to be prefixed to that of *Permāl* in the copper-plate grants to the Christians in the ninth century, suggests the idea of a connexion having existed between them.

An account of the settlement of the various tribes of northern Brahmans on the banks of the Tambrapourne river, in the province of Tinnevely, and on the irrigated lands of Tanjore and Trichinopoly.

An account of the origin of the southern Poligars, and the means by which they acquired the lands held by them.

An account of the Cotta Vellālars in the Tinnevely district, and of the settlement of the Vellālars in the lands of the Carnatic Payenghāt, with a notice of the countries whence they emigrated.

The history of the northern Circars, with an account of the Rashwar settlers in that province.

To ascertain whether any native histories exist of the invasion of the south-eastern peninsula by the Mahommedans and Mah-rattas.

At Madura, it is supposed, that some notices are still preserved in the hands of the Brahmans, which may throw light on the ancient government and colonies believed to have migrated to the eastern and western parts of the coast; and in Malabar and Travancore, vestiges of the early colonization of Kerala, Malayālam, &c. are supposed to exist at present. Information on these subjects would be extremely interesting.

At Cochin, the Jewish establishment deserves notice; and inquiry should be made respecting the ancient records preserved among the Jews, and the ancient inscriptions on copper which they possess.

Does the town of Cochin give origin to an era of that name in use in the neighbouring districts?

ANTIQUITIES.

As there is reason to think that a general comparison of the antiquities preserved in different provinces would be the most effectual means of throwing light on the early history of southern India, it is suggested that detailed descriptions of them, accompanied by drawings, be, if possible, furnished.

These antiquities may be generally classed under the following heads, *viz.*

1. Sepulchral monuments, mounds, and tumuli.
2. Single stones, on which rude figures of warriors are represented; and flat stones, with rude sculptures representing combats, objects of worship, &c., either with or without inscriptions. These are in the Deccan denominated *Viracall*, or heroic monuments.
3. *Shāsānam*s, or inscriptions in various characters, cut in stone on rocks, &c.

These

These generally commemorate grants of land, &c.

4. Vases, urns, and lamps, of clay and metal.

5. Statues, whether those so remarkable for their size, and the uniformity of their sitting or standing attitudes, which belong to the Bouddhaic and Jain worship, or the more varied personifications of the Brahmanical system.

6. Sculptured excavations, as those of Mahāmāleipur, &c.

With respect to the sepulchral monuments, it is desirable to ascertain whether there are any ancient capitals of sovereigns in their vicinity, to whom they might have served as burying-places. Some observations on the nature of the ground and surrounding localities will be useful, in determining whether they were family tombs of dynasties, tombs of particular tribes or castes, the common sepulchres of large communities, or structures erected in commemoration of the slain in some remarkable battle.

Do any of the stones employed in building these sepulchral monuments appear to have been chiselled? Are the quarries near that supplied them; and do they seem to have been constructed by the labour of numbers, hastily collecting rude materials, or by workmen who had leisure to erect more elaborate structures?

Are there any circles of stone, great or small, surrounding these tombs, or any single stones of superior height and size, that might have been erected as particular marks or trophies?

Inquiries are suggested among intelligent natives, relative to the traditions, &c. regarding these structures. The class of *Vaidias*, or native physicians, the *Jotishes*, or astronomers, and frequently the head ryots of villages, are recommended as the most intelligent and unbiassed sources of information.

COINS.

The great utility of coins in illustrating history, renders it desirable that either ancient coins, or accurate casts or drawings of them, should be collected.

The ancient coins found in the peninsula of India may be divided into four classes:

1. Roman and Greek, which are easily

distinguished by the character and the outlines of the figures.

2. Mahommedan coins of the different dynasties, Arabic, Persian, Patān, Mogul, &c., and sometimes of the Caliphs who reigned previously to the first Mahommedan invasion. They are distinguished by inscriptions in Arabic or Persian, and few of them, excepting the Zodiac coins, have figures of any living creature. They are either round or square.

3. Hindu coins of various descriptions, sometimes with only inscriptions in Sanscrit in the Devanāgarī character, but generally distinguished by emblems of religion, by figures of deities and of animals, and by heads of sovereigns, frequently very rude. The most remarkable are the *Rāma Tanka*, a gold coin, convex on one side and concave on the other, on which the coronation of *Rāma* is represented; and the *Canoge* coins, on some of which is represented a king enthroned, on others an idol, &c.

4. Ancient Persian or Parthian coins, with inscriptions in the Pahlavi character, and sometimes in Greek. These are rarely found in India, and generally represent the fire worship on one side.

Curious coins are often presented at certain pagodas, as Tripatti, Trivalore, and Paddapollam. Chinese coins are also occasionally found on the sea-coast.

In describing coins, a distinction should be made between such as were intended for money, and such as served the purpose of medals.

COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE.

If there are any races in India with woolly hair, their history should be investigated, as they are probably not of Asiatic origin.

An account of the state of slavery in the peninsula, both domestic and agricultural.

An account of the Abyssinian slaves on the western coast of the peninsula, their numbers, and the date of their transportation thither.

Are there any traces of a colony of Abyssinians in Central India, or among the Vellālars of the Carnatic.

An account of military tribes; the composition, organization, discipline, and tactics of native armies, and any elucidation of military institutions and the art of war,

war,

war, under the different empires which have successively existed in India.

An account of the Parsees, their numbers, religion, and literature.

The history of the small Jewish kingdoms in southern Arabia which were destroyed by Muhammed.

Some account of the secret association at Rameseram, which is said to be governed by laws much resembling those of freemasonry.

Particulars of the education of dancers and singers, with any rules, written or oral, regarding these arts; the rights of property in female dancers; the castes into which their children are admitted; and their customs with regard to the purchase of children, especially of the weaver tribe.

An account of the *Labbis* of the southern provinces of the peninsula.

Information relative to the practice of burying alive which exists in the provinces north-west of Madras.

An account of any races of mountaineers whose habits and customs differ from those of the inhabitants of the neighbouring plains.

An account of the ceremonies and practices of the pilgrims, at the temples in central and southern India; particularly those of Trivalore and Paddapollam, in the Jageer, with specimens of articles presented as offerings at these temples.

An account of maritime tribes from Bombay northwards, and of the people inhabiting the banks of the Indus.

ARCHITECTURE.

A translation or abstract of the *Silpa Śāstra*, and some exposition of Hindu architecture, including particulars of the building materials in use, especially the preparations of the various kinds of chunnam and cement.

Details regarding the building of pagodas, forts, palaces, bridges, dykes, &c., with the dates of their erection.

The pagodas of Tripatty, Trincomalee, Chillambram, Cānjipuram, Seringam, and Rameseram, are particularly worthy of notice; and among the most remarkable forts are those of Gingee, Vellore, Chandernagore, Seringapatam, Pennakonday, Trichinopoly, Dindigul, and Palamecotab, with the durgas or hill-forts in the Baramahal, the Mysore, the province of

Canara; &c.; many of these are supposed to be very ancient. The works of Gingee may be instanced, which, with any particulars of the former governments of that place, would of themselves form a subject of curious inquiry.

The pagoda and town of Shiva Samudram, near the falls of the Cavery, deserve particular description.

A drawing of the bridge thrown over the Cavery at Seringapatam by the Dewan Poorneah, and called the "Wellesley Bridge," with an account of the manner of its erection and its dimensions, would also be highly interesting.

The Hindu province of Tanjore escaped entirely the ravages of Mahomedan fanaticism, and all its institutions, religious and domestic, exist at this day in their original state. An authentic account of the magnificent temples in the fortresses and towns of Tanjore, Combaconum, Mayāveram, Trivalore, Manargoody, and Andiarcoil, would be extremely valuable. The sculptures in the temple of Andiarcoil are particularly recommended to attention.

LANDED TENURES, AGRICULTURE, &c.

Copies and translations of all kinds of deeds and instruments for the transfer of property, with a notice of the countries and periods to which they refer.

To ascertain, with respect to grants of land in general, whether the land itself is in any case bestowed by the grant, or only the landlord's share of the produce or revenue.

Is there any reason to think that tenures were established in the south of India by the princes of the *Chola* and *Pāndiyan* dynasties, previously to the conquests by the Carnatic sovereigns, in the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries?

Notices of the ancient and modern Hindu systems of agriculture, and of the apportionment of the produce of the soil.

A statement of the proportion of Mahomedan to Hindu cultivators in the several provinces.

An account of the local products of the soil, and of the various manures in use.

An account of the culture of the different kinds of indigo, of sugar, rice, and opium.

An account of the culture of tobacco, and of the date of its first introduction into

into India; and of the pepper and betel vines.

A description of timber trees, with a collection of specimens.

The history of the division of the produce of the soil between the cultivators of irrigated lands in the several provinces of the peninsula; when this division was first established; its cause; the original rates of division, and the increase or decrease of these rates under different sovereigns or governments.

An account of the extent to which irrigation is carried in southern India, and of the works of art erected for that purpose, accompanied by drawings and plans.

An historical account of the *Anicut* on the river Cavery, and of the first conversion of the waters of the river Tambrapourne, in Tinnevely, to purposes of irrigation.

ARTS AND MANUFACTURES.

An inquiry into the state of the arts in general; the smelting of ores; refining and working of metals; works in ivory, wood, pottery, silk, cotton, &c.

Descriptions of native processes for the preparation of various articles of domestic consumption: such as coloured powders, dyes, cosmetics, varnishes, gilding, real and imitative; and the other ornamental works which the Hindus so skilfully employ in the decoration of wooden idols, toys, &c.

Models, drawings, or specimens of all kinds of implements, with descriptions.

A history of the rise and progress of navigation among the Arabs, and of the art of ship and boat-building, as well in their ports as in those of India. Models of grabs, dows, donies, masula boats, catamarans, and canoes, would materially illustrate this subject.

An account of the constitution of a musical band, and a description of the various musical instruments in use, with specimens.

An account of the musical notation of the Hindus, with a history of their attainments in the science of music. Some of their most popular airs, as examples, would enhance the value of communications on this subject.

An account of the gymnastic exercises of the Hindus and Mahomedans; their

arms and warlike engines, offensive and defensive; their method of taking wild animals and game, and the instruments employed for these purposes.

NATURAL HISTORY.

Natural history in all its departments still offers a wide field of research in India. Many districts have been but superficially examined, as to their animal, vegetable, and mineral productions; and even the varieties of the human race have not been sufficiently considered. Communications on this branch of science would therefore be particularly valuable.

The principal rivers will probably furnish many new species of fish; and the various methods of taking them, as well along the coast and in harbours as in rivers, would form a good subject for investigation.

The method of conducting the several pearl fisheries, their extent and annual produce, form a branch of this inquiry.

An account of the breeds of cattle in Guntoor and Guzerat, Mysore, and Vellore, and the cause of their exceeding so remarkably in size those of Tanjore, Malabar, and Canara; also an account of the various breeds of horses, both aboriginal and Arabian.

An account of the *Shen Nai*, or wild dog, accompanied by drawings or a skin. Does it attack the larger beasts of prey and hunt in packs?

It has been observed in the extensive bamboo jungle on the western side of the peninsula, that tracts of the forest have simultaneously died, leaving bare patches of many miles in extent, and that destructive irruptions of wild elephants into cultivated districts have on some occasions been owing to this cause. Does this phenomenon take place in other parts of India? among other trees as well as the bamboo? and to what cause is it to be attributed?

MISCELLANEOUS.

An account of eastern caravans, or overland communications between Europe and India, both in ancient and modern times.

An account of the former and present state of the Pambou strait between the island of Rameseram and the main, with a statement of the causes which have

have obstructed its navigation by large vessels.

It is suggested, that meteorological accounts be kept in all the cutcherries of collectors, with a view to deducing thence a general meteorological account of the peninsula; and the annexed is recommended as the form in which such accounts should be registered.

It also appears to be desirable that the meteorological register should be accompanied by the following introductory remarks, viz. An account of the height of

the station above the sea, stating whether it is on table-land or in a valley; among hills or woods; near swamps or on dry ground. An account of the soil, the geological features of the neighbourhood, the mineral and vegetable productions, the source of the supply of water, and if from wells, their depth, &c.

It is requested that in any communications forwarded to the Society, the native names may be written in the original character as well as in English.

METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Day of the Month.	Thermometer.				Barometer.		Hygrometer.	Pluviometer.	Prevailing Winds.	Prevailing Diseases.		General Remarks on the Weather.
	6 A.M.	10 A.M.	2 P.M.	9 P.M.	Morn.	Even.				Among Natives.	Among Europeans.	

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ENGLAND.

The Reasons of the Laws of Moses, from the "More Nevochim" of Maimonides; with Notes, Dissertations, and a Life of the Author. By Jas. Townly, D.D. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

The subjects of the Dissertations are—the Talmudical Writings; the Zabil, or Ante-Mosaic Idolaters; the Originality of the Laws of Moses; the Mosaic distinction of Clean and Unclean Animals; the Prohibition of Blood; the Typical Character of the Mosaic Institutions; the Leprosy; Talismans and Talismanic Figures; Judicial Astrology.

The Pelican Island, and other Poems. By James Montgomery. 12mo. 6s.

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Dr. Wilkins's Edition of Richardson's Persian, Arabic, and English Dictionary, carefully revised, improved, and much enlarged. In one large volume royal 4to.

A Compendious Grammar of the Egyptian Language, both of the Coptic, or Memphitic, and Sahidic Dialects; with Observations on the Bashmureic; together with the Alphabets of the Hieroglyphic and Demotic, or Enchorial Characters, and some Explanation relative to their Use. By the Rev. Henry Tattam, M.A. F.R.S. 8vo.

The Egyptian Lexicon of La Croze, Scholtz, and Woide, incorporating Rossell Etymologie Egyptiaca. By the Rev. H. Tattam, M.A., &c.

FRANCE.

Lettre à M. Abel Remusat, sur la Nature des Formes Grammaticales en general, et sur le Génie de la Langue Chinoise en particulier; par M. Guillaume de Humboldt. 8vo. 2 fr. 5c.

Histoire Naturelle des Mammifères, avec des figures Originales coloriées, dessinées d'après les ani-

maux vivans; par MM. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire et Fred. Cuvier. 2 feuilles de texte et six planches in 4to. 9 fr.

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GERMANY.

The Annals of Tabari, in Arabic, now first printed from the MSS. in the Library at Leyden, and in the Royal Library at Berlin. Edited, with a Latin Translation, by Professor Kosegarten, of Griefswald. In One Volume 4to., the First Part now in course of publication.

BENGAL.

A Treatise on the Methods of Determining Terrestrial Longitudes by the Moon's Right Ascension. By John Crisp, Captain, Madras Army. 10 Rs.

BOMBAY.

Preparing for Publication by the Native Education Society.

A Maratha Grammar for the use of the Natives. This is compiled and nearly revised.

Questions and Answers on Maratha Grammar. This is compiled, but requires revision.

Ditto ditto on Goojratee Grammar, ditto ditto.

A Goojratee Grammar for the use of the Natives. This is compiled, but requires revision.

A Maratha Dictionary, for the use of the Natives.

A Goojratee Dictionary, for ditto.

A Dictionary, English and Maratha, and Maratha and English.

A Maratha and English Grammar.

A Dictionary, English and Goojratee, and Goojratee and English.

A Goojratee and English Grammar.

VARIETIES.

JOURNAL OF COLUMBUS.

An American periodical work has published a journal of the first voyage of Columbus, recently discovered in MS. in the Archives of the Duke del Infantado, in the hand-writing of the celebrated Bartolomeo de las Casas. The greater part of the MS. seems to be an abstract of the original journal of the navigator; but the following curious introduction is in the words of Columbus.

“ ‘ *In nomine D. N. Jesu Christi.*—Whereas, most Christian, most high, most excellent, and most powerful Princes, our Lords, King and Queen of the Spains and the isles of the sea, this present year 1492, after your Highnesses had ended the war against the Moors, who reigned in Europe, and had finished the war in the great city of Granada, where this present year, on the second day of January, I saw the royal banners of your Highnesses planted by force of arms on the towers of Alhambra, which is the fortress of the said city, and saw the Moorish king come out of the gates of the city and kiss the royal hands of your Highnesses, and of my Lord the Prince; and then in that same month, by the information which I have given your Highnesses of the lands of India, and of a prince called *Gran Can*, which signifies in our language king of kings, how he and his predecessors had often sent to Rome to solicit teachers of our holy faith to instruct him in it, and the holy father had never provided him any, and thus many people were lost by believing in idolatries, and harbouring doctrines of perdition; your Highnesses, as Catholic Christians and princes, who are lovers of the holy Christian faith and promoters of it, and enemies of the sect of Mahomet, and of all idolatries and heresies, thought to send me, Christopher Columbus, to said regions of India, to see the said princes and the people and country, and the disposition of them and of the whole, and the course to be adopted for their conversion to our holy faith; and ordained that I should not proceed by land to the east, as it hath been customary to go, but by way of the west, in which direction we have to this day no certain evidence that any person has passed. So, after having expelled all the Jews from your kingdoms and seignories, in the same month of January, your Highnesses commanded me to proceed to those regions of India with a sufficient armament; and for this granted me great favours, and ennobled me, so that thenceforth in time to come I might style myself Don, and should be high admiral of the ocean, and viceroy and perpetual governor of all

the islands and mainland which I should discover and acquire, and which should thereafter be discovered and acquired in the ocean, and so my oldest son should succeed me, and from degree to degree for ever; and I left the city of Granada the 12th day of the month of May of the same year 1492 on Saturday; I went to the town of Palos, a seaport, where I equipped three vessels very suitable for such a purpose, and departed from the said port, well supplied with much provisions and many seamen, the 3d day of the month of August of the said year, on Friday, half an hour before sunrise, and steered for the Canary Islands of your Highnesses, which are in the said ocean, thence to take my departure, and navigate until I should reach the Indies, and deliver the embassy of your Highnesses to those Princes, and thus accomplish what you had commanded me; and therefore I thought to write all this voyage very exactly, from day to day, every thing which I should do, or see, or experience, as will be seen in the sequel.”

Hence it is evident (as already known) that Columbus stumbled upon America in his pursuit of India. When he first discovered land (the island Guanahani) his inquiries of the natives were respecting *Cathay* and *Cipango*. The following extracts from the journal are to the same effect:

“ Friday, October 26.—He sets sail for Cuba, because by the signs which the Indians gave him of its magnitude, and of the gold and pearls there, he thought it must be the same with *Cipango*.

“ Tuesday, October 30.—He says that he must exert himself to go to the *Gran Can*, who he thought was there, or at the city of *Cathay*, belonging to the *Gran Can*, which he says is very large, as he was told before he left Spain.”

CONSUMPTION OF OPIUM IN CHINA.

It is remarkable that whilst the laws of China strictly prohibit the importation of this drug, under the severest penalties, confiscating the cargoes of vessels in which it is brought, levying heavy fines upon, and subjecting to corporal punishment, all persons concerned in smuggling it,* and even sentencing houses in which it is found to the flames, the consumption of opium continues, and the quantity demanded and received in China is regular and nearly uniform. Even the use of it is

* The risk of conveying opium into the interior is evident from the fact that 8,000 dollars have been given at Peking for a chest worth only 800 at Canton.

is prohibited, so that it is an enjoyment purchased with great risk or great sacrifice in bribes; since those who use it can always be known by the effects it produces. It is not perhaps generally known that opium in that country is chiefly used for smoking, that is, for mixing with tobacco. For this purpose, the Bengal opium is preferred to that of every other country on account of its flavour. When opium is required for chewing, and the intoxicating property is more an object than the flavour, the Malwa opium is preferred to that of Bengal, because it is more abundant in the narcotic principle. For this reason it is a favourite in the eastern islands. The Malwa opium has latterly been in animated demand at Canton, whilst that of Patna and Benares, as well as those of Bengal and Turkey, have declined in credit. This denotes that the destructive habit of chewing opium is gaining ground in China. Thus do records of trade supply a commentary upon the morals of a country!

THE ASIATIC ELEPHANT.

M. Cuvier says that the Asiatic elephant is fifteen or sixteen feet high. This appears to be a great mistake; elephants in India rarely, if ever, exceed eleven feet in height.

TURKISH LAWYERS.

The following curious anecdote is told, in the *Negaristan*,* of a famous lawyer of Bagdad, called Abu Joseph: it marks several peculiarities in the Mohammedan law, and displays some casuistical ingenuity in adapting them to the views of his clients. The Caliph Harun Alrashid had taken a fancy for a female slave belonging to his brother Ibrahim; he offered to purchase her, but Ibrahim, though willing to oblige his sovereign, had sworn that he would neither sell nor give her away. As all parties wished to remove this difficulty, Abu Joseph was consulted, who advised Ibrahim to give his brother one-half of the slave, and to sell him the other. Happy to be relieved from this embarrassment, the Caliph ordered 30,000 dinars for the moiety of the slave, which Ibrahim, as a mark of his acknowledgment, presented to the lawyer. But a second difficulty now arose. The Moslem law prohibits all commerce between a man and the wife or concubine of his brother, till she has been re-married and divorced by a third person. Abu Joseph advised the Caliph to marry her to one of his slaves, who, for a proper consideration, would be easily induced to repudiate her on the spot. The ceremony was performed; but the slave, falling in love with his handsome spouse,

could not be prevailed upon to consent to a separation. Here was a strange and unexpected dilemma; for, all despotic as the Caliph was, he durst not compel him. But Abu Joseph soon discovered an expedient: he desired the Caliph to make a present to the lady of her new husband, which virtually dissolved the marriage; as no woman, by the Mohammedan law, can be the wife of her own slave. Overjoyed that the gordian knot was thus so ingeniously unloosed, the Caliph gave him 10,000 dinars; and the fair slave, receiving a considerable present from her royal lover, presented him with 10,000 more; so that Abu Joseph, in a few hours, found his fees amount to 50,000 dinars, or nearly £25,000.—[Richardson's Diss.

SUBTERRANEAN SOUNDS AT NAKOUS.

Baron Humboldt informs us, on the authority of most creditable witnesses, that subterranean sounds like those of an organ are heard, towards sunrise, by those who sleep upon the granite rocks on the banks of the Orinoco. Messrs. Jomard, Jollois, and Devilliers, three of the naturalists who accompanied Buonaparte to Egypt, heard at sunrise a noise like that of a string breaking, in a granite monument placed at the centre of the spot on which the palace of Carnac stands. Sounds of a nature analogous to these have been heard by Mr. Gray, of University College, Oxford, at a place called Nakous (which signifies a bell), three leagues from Tor, or Tar, on the Red Sea. This place, which is covered with sand and surrounded with low rocks in the form of an amphitheatre, presents a steep declivity towards the sea, from which it is half a mile distant. It has a height of about 300 feet upon 80 feet of width. It has received the name of a bell, because it emits sounds, not as the statue of Memnon formerly did at sunrise, but at every hour of the day and night, and at all seasons. The first time that Mr. Gray visited this place, he heard, at the end of a quarter of an hour, a low continuous murmuring sound beneath his feet, which gradually changed into pulsations as it became louder, so as to resemble the ticking of a clock. In five minutes it became so strong as to resemble the striking of a clock, and even to detach the sand.* Anxious to discover the cause of this phenomenon, which no preceding traveller had mentioned, Mr. Gray returned to the spot next day, and remained an hour to hear the sound, which was on that occasion heard much louder than before. As the sky was serene, and the air calm, he was satisfied that the sound could not be attributed to the introduction

* Or Gallery of Pictures, consisting of historical anecdotes in prose and verse.—*Ed.*

* The people of Tor declare that the camels are frightened and rendered furious by these sounds.

duction of the external air; and, in addition to this, he could not observe any crevices by which this external air could penetrate. The Arabs of the desert ascribe these sounds to a convent of monks preserved miraculously under ground, and they are of opinion that the sound is that of their bell. Others think that it arises from volcanic causes, and they found this opinion on the fact, that the hot baths of Pharaoh are on the same coast.—[*Edin. Phil. Journ.*

CHINESE FUNERAL RITES.

Dr. Morrison tells us that it was an ancient custom in China to inter with the dead clay carriages (*t'ho-chay**) and straw men, for the use and service of the deceased in the other world. A similar usage is still attended to. The usage at present is to make a number of utensils of paper, and by consuming them in fire, pass them into the invisible state, for the use of the departed person. The general term for them is *Ming-k'he*. A house, sedan-chairs, a boat, boatmen, attendants, clothes, and so on, are made and burnt. They burn the actual clothes which the person wore, which, of course, in the case of poor people are not worth much, but expensive wardrobes of the rich are thus consumed. They denominate the practice *Shao-kwa-ho*, "to burn clothes for the passage of the river." The river to be passed is called *Hwang-ho*, "the yellow river."

ARABIAN ANTIQUITIES.

The *Quotidienne*, a Paris paper, contains a puffy notice of the travels of a young French artist named Champmartin, the Duc de Richelieu (de Jumilhac), and the Abbé Desmazures, in the Holy Land, Egypt, Arabia, Constantinople, &c. The traveller, it is stated, explored the ancient cities of Dgerash and Ammon. "At the former, they discovered two superb theatres, the stage of one of which is still perfect. There are also several temples in an almost entire state of preservation. Streets are also to be seen ornamented throughout with Ionic columns. The orders of architecture used are the Corinthian and Ionian. The whole is built of a hard stone, almost granitic; no appearance of marble is to be seen. Each column is composed of only four pieces, including both base and capital. At Ammon, eight leagues from Dgerash, our travellers also discovered a theatre, several grand entrances of exquisite architecture, and a bridge which led to the theatre. The

* The word *thoo* signifies mud or clay; the word *chay*, a chariot. The resemblance of the latter to *char*, *chair*, and *chaise*, in European language, would be a grand discovery to some etymologists.

Corinthian and Ionic orders are those alone employed in these different buildings. These two towns," it is added, "which are, doubtless, of Grecian origin, must be traced to a very high antiquity. They are at present deserted, and have but their ruins alone to bear testimony to their ancient grandeur, while their guardians are but a few Arabs who encamp around them under tents. M. de Champmartin says that the ruins of those towns, drawings of which he brings with him, will appear more striking than those of Balbec or Palmyra." The account contains likewise a curious anecdote of an occurrence at Constantinople. "M. Champmartin and Father Desmazures happened to be at Constantinople at the time of the massacre of the Janissaries, and during the horrors of the bloody revolution which annihilated them. When the firman of the Grand Seigneur arrived, M. de Champmartin was engaged in painting the Seraskier, and the Pacha, with imperturbable coolness, and without rising from the sitting, gave orders for the execution of the rebels, whose bodies almost immediately encumbered the court of the old seraglio, which then formed his palace. M. de Champmartin has preserved a copy of this portrait, which, it is said, is admirably executed, although the hand of the artist might well have trembled at the thought of the terrible circumstance which it recalled, and at the danger which threatened himself, if any sign of horror or of pity had escaped him."

BRICK TEA.

The Mongols, and most of the Nomades of middle Asia, make use of this tea; it serves them both for food and drink. The Chinese carry on a great trade in it, but never drink it themselves. In the tea manufactories, which are for the most part in the Chinese government of Fokien, the dry, dirty, and damaged leaves and stalks of the tea are thrown aside, they are then mixed with a glutinous substance, pressed into moulds, and dried in ovens. These blocks are called by the Russians, on account of their shape, brick tea. The Mongols, the Bouriat, the inhabitants of Siberia beyond Lake Baikal, and the Kalmucks, take a piece of this tea, pound it in a mortar made on purpose, and throw the powder into a cast-iron vessel full of boiling water, which they suffer to stand a long time upon the fire; adding a little salt and milk, and sometimes mixing flour fried in oil. This tea, or broth, is known by the name of Satouran. It is very nourishing.—[*Timkowski's Travels.*

ORIENTAL COINS.

The richest cabinet of oriental coins in Europe is, perhaps, that of Count Romanzow,

manzow, at St. Petersburg, of which Professor Fræhn has lately completed a catalogue. It contains, besides many other remarkable coins, a complete collection of all the coins of the hordes of the Golden Chersonesus, of the Abassides, of the Ommyahs, of the Edvis of Morocco, of the Tabarides of Khorasan, of the Samanides of Bucharia, of the Princes of the House of Tulun, in Egypt, the Baiden, the Khans of Tartary, the successors of Timur, the Sophis of Persia, the Princes of Jagatai, the Moguls, the Sultans of Turkey, and the Kings of Georgia.

CATERPILLARS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

The appearance of the caterpillars is sometimes so sudden and so numerous, that many of the country people believe firmly they are brought by the winds. It is puzzling how they should appear simultaneously and in such numbers upon isolated spots. They do not spread widely over the field, but proceed in a compact line, often several inches wide and deep, huddling over each other like a hive of bees. This line is stretched irregularly across the field, the progress of their ravages being seen waving in and out, upon the edge of the unscathed portion, like the irregular ravages of a fire. Not a green blade is to be seen behind them, except those of the solitary herbs, rib-grass, and the like, which they avoid, the field being bedded with their fetid excrement, and forming a dismal, desert-looking contrast to the flourishing pasture in advance of them. The commencement of spring is the period of their visit; and although they send but few pioneers *before*, yet *behind* there are generally stragglers. In crossing a stream, they proceed to some point of land projecting into it above, where there is a bend, and dropping into the water, are floated to the opposite side, at some distance below. So close and massive is often their advancing line, that you may tread several hundreds to death by a single stamp of your feet.—[*Two Years in New South Wales.*]

MEEKNESS OF THE EARLY MUSULMANS.

An Arabian expounder of the chapter of Amram, where God declares he has prepared Paradise for those who restrain their anger and forgive those who trespass against them, relates (according to D'Hérbelot) the following anecdote of the meekness of the celebrated Mohammedan doctor, Abu-Hunifah, which transcends Christian forbearance. Abu Hunifah, having received a blow on the face, turned to the smiter, and said: "I might return you blow for blow, but I will not; I might complain to the Caliph, but I will not; I might represent to God in my prayers the outrage you have offered me,

but I will not; finally, I might at the day of judgment call on God to avenge it; but, so far from doing so, if that dreadful day were now to come, and my intercession could avail, I would not enter Paradise, except in your company."

CHINESE JEST.

Dr. Morrison, in his *Chinese Dialogues*, gives the following Chinese tale, or anecdote, as an illustration:—A physician, who was going to remove, said to his neighbours, "I have given you much trouble, and now have nothing at parting to present you in token of regard: accept a packet of medicine." The neighbours excused themselves, saying they had no complaint. The doctor replied, "only take my physic, and I warrant you will soon be sick enough."

OBJECT OF EMBALMING IN EGYPT.

A French chemist, M. Julia Fontenelle, in a discourse pronounced on occasion of the opening of an Egyptian mummy in the amphitheatre of the Sorbonne at Paris, has delivered an opinion respecting the cause of embalming in Egypt, that the Egyptians were led to it from physical necessity. During four months of every year the inundations of the Nile cover almost entirely the whole of the surface of Egypt which is under cultivation. Under the reign of Sesostris, for an extent of territory of about 2,250 square leagues, according to D'Anville, there would be a population of 6,222 persons per square league, which would present 350,000 deaths per annum. These corpses must be gotten rid of either by burning or by interment: if the latter, they must be buried around the inhabited spots, or in those which were inundated by the Nile, and then the decomposition of these bodies would have been a source of destruction; and for burning there was an insufficiency of wood. But the soil of Egypt abounds in springs of natron (subcarbonate of soda); and as this substance is perfectly antiseptic, the inhabitants were naturally led to preserve with it the corpses of the dead. In support of the opinion that sanitary views alone were the cause of embalment down to the third century before the Christian era, when the practice was abandoned, M. Fontenelle observes, that during the whole of that period the plague was unknown in Egypt, where it is now endemic.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CAMELOPARD.

At a meeting of the Academy of Sciences, Paris, on the 6th August, M. Geoffroy St. Hilaire, demonstrated, from a skull of a young girafe, that the horns of this animal are not simple excrescences of the frontal bone, as commonly supposed,

posed, but a superadded bone, which it is possible at a particular period to separate. This circumstance is common to the *cervi*, among which M. Geoffroy proposes to class the animal.

CHINESE INK.

According to Chinese authorities, ink (*mih*) was supplied their court, in the time of the Han dynasty, antecedent to our era, from a place called Yu-me. About A.D. 400 it was made of the soot obtained from grain and fir. At the commencement of the T'hang dynasty (A.D. 650)

ink was annually brought from Corea as an article of tribute, and was called pine or fir-smoke ink. In the reign of Hs-ning of the Sung dynasty (A.D. 1085), one Ch'hang-yu began to use oil-smoke, and put musk into it, and made an ink which he denominated the dragon composition; otherwise called imperial ink. In old times, the ink of Le-ting-qwei was the best; then that of Ch'hang-yu, and lastly the ink of Chin-lang. The application of the word *mih* to ink is fixed by the phrase *shoo-mih*, i. e. book-ink.

NEW STAMP DUTIES OF CALCUTTA.

SCHEDULE OF THE STAMP DUTIES IMPOSED BY REGULATION XII. 1826.

Preamble of the Regulation.—"Whereas stamp duties have long been raised, levied, and paid within the provinces subordinate to this presidency, and whereas it appears expedient, with a view to the improvement of the revenue derived from the said duties, and is otherwise just and proper, that a similar tax should be levied and paid within the town of Calcutta, the Vice-President in Council, &c. has enacted the following rules to be in force within the said town of Calcutta from and after the 1st day of May next ensuing."

Agreements (except for hire of labour, or for sale of goods under 500 rupees, and agreements by letter between persons forty miles apart) 8 0

Assignments, not being Conveyances and Settlements, and not specially exempted 8 0

Bills of Exchange, or obligation for payment of money, within the provinces subordinate to Fort William, at sight, or at any stated period, not exceeding three months after date, or ninety days after sight; and bills of exchange payable out of the said provinces at whatever date, viz.

For a sum not exceeding Rs. 25...Rs. 0 1

Above	not exceeding	
Rupees 25.....	Rupees 50	0 2
50.....	100	0 4
100.....	200	0 8
200.....	400	0 12
400.....	800	1 0
800.....	1,600	1 8
1,600.....	3,000	2 0
3,000.....	5,000	2 8
5,000.....	10,000	4 0
10,000.....	20,000	6 0
20,000	30,000	8 0

Above	not exceeding	
Rs. 30,000.....	Rs. 50,000 ...	Rs. 12 0
50,000.....	100,000	16 0
100,000 .....	.....	20 0

Promissory Notes on paper of the above value are not re-issuable; but if intended to be re-issued the duty is as follows:—

For a sum not exceeding Rs. 25...Rs. 0 2

Above	not exceeding	
Rupees 25... ..	Rupees 50	0 4
50.....	100	0 8
100.....	200	0 12
200.....	400	1 0
400.....	800	1 8
800.....	1,600	2 0
1,600.....	3,000	2 8
3,000.....	5,000	4 0
5,000.....	10,000	6 0
10,000.....	20,000	8 0
20,000.....	30,000	12 0
30,000.....	50,000	16 0
50,000.....	100,000	20 0
100,000 .....	.....	32 0

The Governor-general may allow banks and companies to compound for the stamp duty.

Foreign Bills of Exchange, drawn in sets, for every bill of each* set, where the sum payable thereby may not exceed 400 rupees...Rs. 0 8

Above	not exceeding	
Rupees 400... ..	Rupees 800	0 12
800.....	1,600	1 0
1,600.....	3,000	1 8
3,000.....	5,000	2 0
5,000.....	10,000	2 8
10,000.....	20,000	4 0
20,000.....	30,000	6 0
30,000.....	50,000	8 0
50,000.....	.....	12 0

Exemptions.—Bills of Exchange and Promis-

Promissory Notes issued by Government, or other acknowledgement on account of Government; and all drafts or orders for payment of money on demand drawn by any banker or agent residing within twenty miles of the place whence issued, such place being specified.

Bills of Sale, as securities, merely collateral, with some instrument that has paid duty as conveyance 8 0

Bonds, or objections for payment of money at a period exceeding three months or ninety days' sight; also Respondentia and Bottomry bonds; viz.

In a sum not exceeding Rs. 25...Rs. 0 2

Above	not exceeding	
Rupees 25	Rupees 50	0 4
50	100	0 8
100	200	1 0
200	300	2 0
300	500	4 0
500	1,000	6 0
1,000	2,000	10 0
2,000	3,000	16 0
3,000	5,000	20 0
5,000	10,000	32 0
10,000	20,000	40 0
20,000	30,000	50 0
30,000	50,000	64 0
50,000	75,000	70 0
75,000	100,000	80 0
100,000	150,000	100 0
150,000	200,000	120 0
200,000		150 0

Bonds given as security for transfer of Government Securities, or for payment of Annuities for a fixed period, or for delivery on accounting for any matter capable of being valued, are to be charged at the rate of the amount engaged, &c. or at the value of the matter, &c.

Bonds for Annuities or for an indefinite period, are to be charged at the rate of ten times the yearly payment.

Bonds where the amount is uncertain or unlimited 150 0

Bonds taken as collateral security with an instrument that has paid duty, or taken as security for performance of a contract, not for transfer of property; also bonds of indemnity and bonds for due execution of office, and all other bonds, Rs. 8 0

Exemptions:—Arbitration Bonds; bonds given to or by government officers on government account; judicial or revenue security bonds, razeenamahs, sooluhnamahs and ruffanamahs.

Charter-parties, or contracts of that nature (except for vessels taken up by government) Rs. 8 0

Conveyances; viz. Where the purchase or consideration money shall not exceed 50 rupees.....Rs. 0 8

Above	not exceeding	
Rupees 50	rupees 100	1 0
100	200	2 0
200	500	4 0
500	1,000	8 0
1,000	2,000	12 0
2,000	3,000	16 0
3,000	5,000	20 0
5,000	8,000	32 0
8,000	12,000	40 0
12,000	20,000	50 0
20,000	30,000	64 0
30,000	50,000	80 0
50,000	100,000	100 0
100,000	200,000	150 0

and for every further lack of rupees beyond two lacks 100 0

Exemptions:—Grants, leases or sales, wherein Government is a party (except sales for recovery of arrears of revenue or rent, or in satisfaction of dues of court, when the purchaser, &c. are to pay the duty); also transfers in government loans or securities, and Bank shares.

Copies authenticated of any instruments charged with stamp duty, viz.

When made for a party,—the same duty as the original instrument.

When made for a person, not a party Rs. 8 0

Authenticated records of writings furnished to individuals from any public office of government, are to be written on paper of the value for each sheet of 0 8

Exemptions:—Copies for the private use of persons having custody of the original, or of their attorney; copies which public officers are directed to furnish, and are not specially charged; copies of proceedings and decrees of the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut, which are to be charged as usual.

Deeds of any kind not particularized Rs. 8 0

Exchanges; Deeds of exchange without payment of money..... 8 0

If with money the same as conveyances.

Engagements to cultivate or deliver Indigo or other articles of commerce in consideration of advances made,—as Bonds for payment of money exceeding three months after date.

Leases in perpetuity or contingent, in consideration of fine or premium,—if without rent, as conveyances. If at a yearly rent, without fine or premium, viz.

Where the rent shall exceed 12 rupees, but not exceed 24Rs. 0 8

Exceeding	not exceeding	
Rupees 24.....	rupees 50	0 12

Ex.

Exceeding	not exceeding	
Rs. 50.....	Rs. 100	Rs. 1 0
100	250	2 0
250	500	4 0
500	1,000	8 0
1,000	2,000	12 0
2,000	4,000	16 0
4,000	6,000	20 0
6,000	10,000	32 0
10,000	50,000	64 0
50,000		80 0

Where rents and fine or premium are both paid, the lease is chargeable with both duties.

The counterpart of any lease charged with a duty exceeding eight rupees, shall likewise be executed on paper bearing a stamp of 4 0

Exemptions:—Leases where the annual rent shall not exceed 12 rupees; and leases or pottahs given by government or the board of revenue.

Letters of Attorney, or Commission, or Factory, viz. general..... 4 0
particular..... 2 0

Exemptions:—Wukalutnamahs in the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut, or any subordinate courts of judicature.

Letters of License from creditors to debtors 8 0

Mortgages as Bonds.

Where a bond has been already given, the mortgage is to be charged as a collateral security; and where there is more than one deed, the principal deed only shall be charged with the *ad valorem* duty, the others as collateral security; acknowledgments or promissory notes to bankers for loans or deposits, to be charged as promissory notes; if payable at a date exceeding three months, as deeds of mortgage.

Partition Deeds 8 0

If in consideration of money, the principal deed to be charged as conveyance.

Policy of Assurance on lives, viz.

Where the sum insured shall not exceed.....	S. Rs. 5,000	Rs. 4 0
Exceeding 5,000 and not exceeding	10,000...	8 0
	10,000.....	20,000... 12 0
	20,000.....	50,000... 16 0
	50,000.....	20 0

Policy of insurance on vessels, &c. where the premium shall not exceed two per cent on the sum

insured, if the whole sum insured shall not exceed 1,000 rupees... Rs. 0 8

If the sum insured exceeds 1,000 rupees, then for every 1,000 rupees, and also for any fractional part of 1,000 0 8

Where the premium exceeds two per cent. double the above rates of duty.

Promissory Notes, see *Bills and Bonds*.—

All receipts for money deposited in the hands of bankers or agents, if the same shall stipulate for payment of interest, are to be deemed promissory notes.

Receipts, or discharges for payment of money,

Not exceeding ... Rupees 32 Rs. 0 1

Exceeding 32 and not exceeding..... 100 ... 0 2

100 200 ... 0 4

200 500 ... 0 8

500 1,000 ... 0 12

1,000 2,000 ... 1 0

2,000 3,000 ... 1 8

3,000 5,000 ... 2 0

5,000 8,000 ... 2 8

8,000 4 0

In full of all demands 4 0

Exemptions:—Receipts of officers of government, or for purchase of government securities, or shares of the bank of Bengal; or for money deposited in bankers' or agents' hands to be accounted for on demand, not stipulating payment of interest; receipts on paper already stamped; also letters by post acknowledging receipt of promissory notes or security for money.

Settlements to be charged with the *ad valorem* duty, chargeable for a bond for the amount or value settled or agreed to be settled; or in cases in which the value shall be indeterminate, at the rate of 100 rupees.

Exemption:—Wills and deeds merely declaratory of trust, pursuant to any previous settlement, deed, or will.

General Exemptions:—Deeds, instruments, or writings of any kind, in which Government, or any Board, Commission, Court, or public officer may in a public capacity be a party, (save and except they relate to matters concerning the commercial department), shall not be subject to any stamp duty.

* * This Regulation is almost the same, not excepting the schedule, as that of 1824, No. XVI., which consolidated the stamp duties in the provinces.

ASIATIC INTELLIGENCE.

Calcutta.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

Territorial Department.

Feb. 22. Mr. G. Alexander, assistant to secretary to Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces.

Political Department.

Feb. 23. Capt. H. Caldwell, superintendent of affairs of Mysore princes.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS,
PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort William, Feb. 16, 1837.—48th N.I. Ens. G. Greene to be lieut. from 17th Jan., v. Lloyd cashiered.

Cadet J. F. Egerton admitted to artillery.

Messrs. T. W. Burt and Alex. Beattie admitted on estab. as assist. surgeons.

Assist. surg. J. M. Macra not to perform medical duties of civil station of Patna, as formerly stated.

Surg. G. Govan to be zoologist and botanist to survey under Capt. Herbert in Himalaya mountains with an allowance of Rs. 800 per mensem.

Feb. 22.—Capt. Garstin, of engineers, to have charge of European invalids and supernumeraries of H.C.'s service under orders of embarkation for Europe, on H.C.'s ship *Asia*.

Feb. 23.—54th N.I. Lieut. C. F. Urquhart to be capt. of a comp., and Ens. G. D. Dawes to be lieut., from 11th Feb., in suc. to Kerr dec.

Lieut. H. de Bude, of engineers, to be executive officer to conduct alterations and repairs of fortress of Allighur, in room of Lieut. E. J. Smith app. to Allahabad Division of Public Works.

Cadets H. Kynnesman, M. Brooke, Jos. Morton, and C. Jeff, admitted to infantry, and prom. to ensigns.

Capt. J. A. Currie, 14th N.I., permitted, at his own request, to resign service of Hon. Company.

Capt. H. Caldwell, 49th N.I., to be superintendent of Mysore princes, v. Huthwaite proceeded to Europe.

Maj. J. Maling, 64th N.I., to be paymaster at presidency, and to King's troops, v. Caldwell.

Maj. W. G. Mackenzie, 5th N.I., to be agent for army clothing, 2d division, v. Maling.

Capt. J. Davies, 3d Extra N.I., and fort adj., to officiate as town and fort major of Fort William during absence of Lieut. Col. Vaughan.

Head-Quarters, Feb. 16.—Assist. surg. J. Lee appointed to artillery at Kurnaul.

Ens. F. C. Minchin to do duty with 67th N.I. at Dinapore.

Feb. 20.—*Cornet and Ensigns (recently admitted) appointed to do duty.* Cornet A. Tucker with 10th L.C. at Meerut; Ens. E. Hay, 35th N.I., Meerut; Ens. F. C. Brooke, 7th do., Berhampore; Ens. John Bonteln, 62d do., Benares; Ens. Wm. Young, 87th do., Pertauburgh (Oude); Ens. Chas. Thorold, 49th do., Mirzapore; and Ens. Thos. Gifford, 1st do., Muttra.

Assist. surg. W. Spencer to do duty with H.M.'s 31st regt. at Meerut.

Feb. 21.—Assist. surg. Beattie directed to place himself under orders of superintend. surg. at Cawn-pore.

Surg. J. A. D. Watson and Assist. Surg. Glass appointed to 17th N.I.

Surg. J. Marshall, of 7th, and Assist. surg. A. K. Lindsay, of 4th extra N.I., removed to 32d N.I.

Assist. surg. C. Llewellyn re-appointed to 28th N.I., from 5th Feb.

FURLOUGHS.

To Europe.—Feb. 21. Capt. R. H. Sneyd, 9th L.C., for health.—Superintend. Surg. Durham, on private affairs.—22. Capt. E. Garstin, of engineers, for health.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RUNJEET SINGH.

Accounts of this chieftain, as late as the middle of January, are given in the native papers. The Bheels, it appears, were encountered by the commander of the fortress of Khyrabad, who, after an action, routed them and put them to flight; they left their booty behind. The Chief of the Bheels, Rehman Khan, subsequently offered to refrain from predatory inroads and depredations, provided a jaghire was given for the maintenance of himself and his party. The Maharajah replied, it is said, that "if they would truly repent, and forsake their evil course, and give up all their arms, he would receive a tract of land the products of which would suffice for his maintenance as a permanent provision." The French officers have been recalled to the capital.

A severe action had taken place between Runjeet's troops and those of Namdar Khan, a refractory Afghan Talookdar of Sunkerpore, which lasted several days. The Talookdar was in the end defeated, and fled to Edoghur, pursued by the Sikhs. A body of Euyofsees were plundering in the vicinity of Attock. Lists of presents made to the temple of Amritsur, and to the Brahmins, by order of Runjeet, are given in these papers.

TIGER HUNT IN THE DEHRA DOON.

On the 27th January, a party cutting firewood in the jungles of Dehra, lost a sepoy who was carried off by a tiger. Knowing that the tiger would be easily found on the next morning, when sluggish and gorged from feasting on his victim during the night, they immediately returned to cantonments to give notice, and prepare for the morning's campaign. Accordingly, on the morning of the 28th, 150 men of the battalion, accompanied by three European gentlemen of the station, sallied forth, variously armed, to attack the tiger (on foot), and by disposing of the party in small detachments on various sides of the steep jungly ravine so as to command every part of it, they closed in gradually from all quarters towards the centre, and soon started the enemy, whose roaring and growling, in such difficult ground as the ravine in question presented, was not particularly gratifying to those unac-

unaccustomed to such sport, especially as from the great height and thickness of the jungle, it was impossible to see the animal even at three feet distance. After a chase of several hours, in which many shots were fired, and many good charges made, it was conjectured, as was next day proved to be correct, that there were more than one enemy to deal with; as the constant reappearance of the animal in the most opposite directions, in the course of a few minutes, could not have been that of one and the same. About 3 p. m. the party luckily succeeded in beating him almost to the end of the ravine, where, from the absence of jungle, he was obliged to pass over a bare space of ground, which gave us a fine view of him in endeavouring to escape. Several shots having then hit him, called up all his energies for self-defence; and being greatly irritated from several wounds, he gallantly charged several parties in turn, and though again wounded, and pretty severely too, in many places, he continued his charge with determined resolution, and had almost succeeded in laying hold of the Hon. Mr. Shore, who had just fired both his barrels, but stood his ground, trusting to his doubled barrel pistol, which had previously dropped from his belt, but of which he at the time was not aware. The animal at this time being close upon him, he was compelled to retreat, but was only saved by a sepoy's stumbling between him and the tiger, whom the beast seized by the arm and cruelly lacerated. A general rally then took place, headed by Mr. Shore and his companions, who with great precision and steadiness fired their pieces right and left with such effect, as brought the monster to the ground, and saved the sepoy from further injury, who indeed had contrived to disentangle himself from the enemy a minute before, and having been dressed in a quilted jacket, fortunately suffered less than might have been anticipated, and I am happy to say is now doing well and rapidly recovering. The tiger now apparently dead, the whole party closed round him, when to their astonishment he again got up and charged furiously, though as his last effort, even then he might have done much mischief, the whole party being unprepared, and without a single loaded barrel among them; but the gallant little Surmorees, trusting to their tulwars, fell upon him en masse and cut him to pieces. Such was the result of our first day's amusement; when our further sport, owing to the fatigue we had undergone, and the lateness of the hour, was unanimously postponed till the following morning. This enormous animal, measuring the unusual length of nine feet and seven inches, was dissected the following morning by our doctor, who discovered in his stomach some of the bones of the feet, part

of the bowels of the man he had killed, also something like cow's udder, the hoof of a deer, and a silver bangle, which, from some device upon it, was recognized by Hona Deeran, Jemadar of the 3rd company, to have been the property of a beautiful young woman named Soondree, who had unaccountably disappeared some time ago, as was supposed, with her paramour.

Next morning the whole corps, including the rest of the European officers, invested the same ravine, and had not entered the jungle five minutes before the alarm was given, that two tigers were seen approaching the line; one of them crouching in the act of springing on a gentleman of the party, when several shots fired, killed him on the spot. The second in endeavouring to escape by passing through the heavy jungle in front of the line was repeatedly shot at, but only slightly wounded; when thus irritated, he suddenly wheeled round and charged the extreme file of the right flank, when an old Havildar, one of the best shots in the corps, stepped forward and shot him through the heart; shortly after, a great uproar was heard on the left and on the upper part of the ravine, where a third large male tiger was announced, who singled out for the object of his attack, our little serjeant-major, who in no way appalled, though at the time almost alone and unsupported, gallantly came down to "prepare to receive cavalry," and reserved fire, till the animal, in the act of springing not three yards distant, received his shot in the chest, which turned him and threw him under a low branch of a tree, from which he could not extricate himself, and where he was immediately cut to pieces by the tulwars and kookries of those who had come up.—[*India Gaz.*, March 1.

SCHOOL SOCIETY.

A meeting was held on Tuesday morning last, at the house of Gopee Mohun Deb, in Sobha Bazar, for the distribution of the prizes awarded to the most meritorious pupils of the Schools, under the control of the School Society. The whole number of the scholars amounts to about 2000: of these 1400 had been previously examined, and above 200 had been selected for reward. These were assembled in a spacious apartment attached to the Baboo's dwelling. The Hon. Sir Charles Grey, President of the Society, and several European ladies and gentlemen were present, as were Maharaja Baidyanath Rai, and a number of native gentlemen. The prizes, consisting of books, were distributed by Mr. Hare, the Secretary to the Society, and some of the classes were examined in Bengalee and English by different individuals present. Their progress in both afforded considerable satisfaction. The examination

tion concluded with some specimens of English recitation, poetic and dramatic; in the latter, the quarrels between *Edmund and Warwick*, and between *Druid and Cassius*, were delivered with an energy and feeling, that shewed the juvenile declaimers to be fully masters of the sentiments expressed. The progress that has been made in Calcutta, during the last three or four years, in the important business of Native Education, is highly gratifying. Whilst feelings long cherished, receive that attention to which they are entitled, and liberal facilities have been afforded for the prosecution of those studies, which have been hitherto the objects of local veneration, the interest of the people has been awakened for the due cultivation of their vernacular language, and the acquirement of that of the ruling authority. The dialect of Bengal will not much longer be left in the rude and unsettled condition of an unwritten tongue, and a familiar knowledge of the best English writers, in every department, may be rendered the means of providing the Bengalee language, with an invaluable store of literature and science. This power of enriching the one with the treasures of the other, is now in the possession of many young men of great promise, and we are satisfied, it will be not unprofitably enjoyed. The progress made in their studies by the youth of Calcutta, is, however, not more the subject of congratulation, than the enlightened interest taken by so many of their seniors in their education. The minds of the most respectable members of the native community, seem now fully alive to the importance of intellectual improvement, and individuals of distinguished rank, affluence, merit and attainments, readily afford their countenance to occasions, which, like the present, cannot fail to excite emulation, and must ensure success.—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Feb. 22.]

STEAM NAVIGATION.

We are informed that Government are about to build two steam boats, on a smaller scale than hitherto, and drawing only three feet water, to be employed in conveying troops and military stores up the country. As these vessels will be constructed, from the keel upwards, with a view to the comfort and convenience of the troops to be embarked on them, a greater improvement in this department of the service has not been suggested for a long time.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Feb. 23.]

THE STAMP DUTIES.

The stamp regulation has excited a great sensation amongst all classes at Calcutta. A petition is talked of, and a public meeting, it is said, is intended to be called to consider the subject. One of the opposi-

tion papers contends that the people of Calcutta ought to remonstrate and protest against the tax as illegal! Another paper, the *Hurkaru*, suggests the following curious expedient, in arguing upon this topic:

"There is no evil that does not produce some good, the present rotten borough system offers us the means of being efficiently represented in Parliament. A very small part of the sum that is now about to be taken from our pockets, would purchase for us members enough to make us heard and respected. Why should not Calcutta be represented by the aid of Old Sarum, or Dunwich, or Looe, or any other marketable borough? Six members would do more than sixty petitions. But they must be steady men of business, always in their places. Two sessions, we will venture to predict, would work a wonderful alteration. Here is a constitutional remedy for grievances, and not a very expensive one; if any body knows a better, let him propose it."

The more moderate of the public writers intimate, that the mercantile community, though dissatisfied with the tax, do not contemplate any disrespectful proceedings.

THE CALCUTTA PRESS.

In the last number of the *Oriental Magazine* appear characters of the Calcutta periodicals, in an article "on the Press in India." We cannot commend the taste which dictated the selection of this subject, which was a delicate one for the writer to meddle with. We subjoin extracts relating to the *Hurkaru*, the *India Gazette*, the *Government Gazette*, and the *Bengal Chronicle*.

"Among the daily papers of Calcutta, the *Bengal Hurkaru*, may be permitted to take the lead, as the oldest established periodical of any now in existence at this Presidency. We recollect the day when this paper, as a weekly publication, was conducted with a talent and ability, to which it has certainly long been a stranger; and from which it is every day still farther removing. Its influence on public opinion has, for some time past, been rapidly on the decline; and guided by no consistent code of political principles, but opposed directly to-day, to that which yesterday it warmly supported, wonder ceases that it should be regarded with diminishing respect by the public. In its correspondence department it has displayed as motley an exhibition as perhaps any print that ever gave utterance to the reveries of the scribbling mania, and has been the vehicle of more puerile and trifling writing of this kind, than almost all the other periodical publications of the Presidency put together. Occasionally its editorial columns have displayed the pen of the scholar, and the man of information; but such displays have

have, for some time past, been like angels' visits, few and far between, and the *Hurku* appears at this moment evidently on the decline.

"The *India Gazette* is a paper of established reputation, and has been fortunate in having been always in the hands of editors qualified to conduct it with respectability. Its circulation is extensive, and the general character of its original lucubrations, such as to ensure it a favourable reception among those—and they are many in this country—who are fond of what is commonly called *light reading*. In its politics it is not merely strongly Whiggish, but approaches—or rather did approach, for in that respect it has much improved of late—to the Radical party. Our own greatest objection to this journal—and we know it is the objection of many—is the improper manner in which it sometimes speaks of religious subjects; yet it certainly breathes, in its general tone, a kindness and charity, from which we wonder the more that the Established Church and her interests should be excluded. In its style of composition it does not exhibit much vigour, or even taste; but it compensates for the want of these by its humour and liveliness: and it descends with an ease, that to many must be pleasing, to notice what to other papers, less disposed to gratify the popular taste, might appear now and then beneath the dignity of the periodical press. It has in general avoided the discussion of local politics, more, we should think, than could be agreeable to its subscribers; and has refrained from speaking its dissent from measures, which could scarcely fail to have called for its condemnation.

"The *Government Gazette*, from its official connection with authority, is necessarily precluded from the same latitude of remark on passing events, or even the same freedom in noticing passing rumours of intelligence, in which the other papers indulge; its statements, therefore, when they appear, are relied upon with more faith, where points of fact are involved, if its political speculations are somewhat more cramped and fettered. In the hands of its former conductor, this paper acquired a high and just estimation, as a literary *Gazette*; and in its extracts from foreign journals has uniformly displayed great taste and judgment. The editor who has at present its superintendence, has already added greatly to its well-established fame, and especially in the department of local science and literature, has made the *Government Gazette*, without doubt, the most copious and valuable receptacle of interesting details. Although it touches but seldom on the great questions of a Free Press and Colonization, it is opposed to both; and were we to be guided in our judgment on these questions, by the weight

Asiat. Journ. Vol. 24, No. 141.

of authority alone, our decision must be inimical to the introduction of these measures into India.

"The *Bengal Chronicle* is a paper but of yesterday. Under the name of the *Colombian Press Gazette*, it first appeared as a mere Advertiser, gradually extended its views and its columns; and at length assumed its place among the periodical publications of the Presidency—a place that is far from discredit to its conductor, evidently a man of considerable talent and industry. This paper is conducted avowedly on the principles that distinguished the late *Calcutta Journal*, and advocates a free press and colonization with zeal and assiduity. It has admitted into its pages some of the most discreditable lampoons on the head and the measures of Government, which have appeared since the liberality of the present administration allowed the periodical press the latitude it enjoys; and has placed itself in the ungracious situation of lamenting over 'the fettered and voiceless press' in India, at the very moment when its columns are affording the most unequivocal proofs, that this press enjoys as great a portion of practical freedom as any in the British dominions."

GAETIES AT MEERUT.

Meerut, January 25. "On the 18th inst. the friends of Brig. McCombe gave him a farewell dinner party on his approaching departure for the Presidency. General Reynell was in the chair; and about eighty of us sat down to a most excellent dinner. We had some very good speaking; and every toast was proposed that could be gratifying to the feelings of the Brigadier, and much and sincere regret expressed at his approaching departure. Mrs. McCombe had previously left the station, or we should have had a ball and supper also. The departure of the Brigadier's family will cause a great blank in our society, for they have done every thing in their power to promote hospitality, and contribute to the pleasantness of the station.

"On the 23d instant the bachelors of the 10th Light Cavalry gave a fancy ball and supper to the whole station, and a very brilliant and pleasant evening, I assure you, we had; every thing went on agreeably, the company appeared all in good humour; the young ladies looked more than usually amiable, and the bachelors quite irresistible. We had some excellent characters: where all are good, it is invincible to draw comparisons; and I hardly know which we most admired—the Cottle-tops of Cottle-top Hall, the group of peasants, the ballad singers, Sir Charles and Lady Grandison, &c. &c. all were equally good in their way. The minuet de la cour, by Sir Charles and Lady Grandison,

excited bursts of applause, and was declared to be one of the best things that ever was seen. At about one we sat down to a most excellent supper, where there was every thing that the heart or appetite of man could desire. Every thing appeared to be of the very best description. The old folks, who are the best judges in these matters, declared the wines excellent, and I am inclined to think they were right, for I observed the champagne flying about in every possible direction. If we are to have more such agreeable parties by the bachelors remaining in single blessedness, I hope they will never marry. So, between ourselves, Mr. Editor, I have no objection to a glass of good champagne.

"We had the bands of H. M. Lancers and H. M. 31st Regiment to assist in enlivening us; the latter regiment is just arrived, and when we become better acquainted, we shall, no doubt, find them an agreeable addition to this agreeable station.—*India Gaz. Feb. 8.*"

CHILD STEALING.

The kotwal reported that four fakeers, of the Dada Punthi sect, having lately arrived with two children, one ten, the other twelve years of age, they were questioned about the boys, when they represented them to be children whom they had adopted, with the consent of their friends; that presently, however, two traders of Bherul Ghat arrived, who claimed the children, and charged the mendicants with having stolen them. The children confirmed the fact, saying, that the mendicants had tempted them to accompany them with sweetmeats and shews, and that after getting them to some distance, had shorn their heads. They were accordingly restored to their relations, and the mendicants punished by proportionate confinement.—*Shems al Akhbar.*

AMHERST TOWN.

Extract of a Letter.—"The harbour of Amherst has been so fully described, and so ably laid down in the chart of Captain Spiers, that it calls for no further remark. I have the satisfaction, however, to state, that during my stay there no less than nine ships rode safely at anchor within 200 yards of the shore, nor was any serious accident experienced by any of them either in their entrance or departure. The greatest draught of water amongst them was 17½ feet, and the smallest 15 feet. One serious objection was early urged against the settlement; that the supply of water was not only inadequate, but of bad quality. The experience of nearly a whole year had fully proved that there is no foundation for such an apprehension; water is found every where within six or seven feet of the surface, by any one who takes the trouble to

dig a well. I believe that there are not less than a dozen now open. The water is just as fine as it is abundant, and is approved of both by natives and strangers. Every ship that has visited the place has been watered from them, and they have afforded a daily supply to the large flotilla of gun-boats. Such a spontaneous supply of good water is scarcely procurable at any other port in India, that I know of.

"An object of the first importance to the prosperity of the settlement is its trade in timber. The existence of extensive forests of teak on the Gaing, Attran, and Saluen rivers, equal or superior in size to the common run of teak, usually exported from Rangoon, has been satisfactorily ascertained. There is reason also to believe it is superior in quality, since the teak brought from the forests of Shooegin and Toungoo, and, indeed, those generally which are situated on the eastern extremity of the Burman dominions, and which, consequently approximate nearest to those of our newly acquired territory, is considered far superior to that cut from the forests of the Irrawuddee, and bears a proportionably larger price in the Rangoon market. It is reasonable to expect that the important discovery of these forests will, at no distant period, relieve us from our dependence upon the caprice of the Burmans, for a supply of this commodity, and that it will furnish our Government, at a cheap rate, with the descriptions of timber required for ordnance and other purposes, which it was seldom, and with great difficulty, able to select from the cargoes brought from Rangoon. I understand that the able Superintendent of the Botanical Gardens has discovered several other species of timber suitable for Government purposes, and those of the public, but I am not sufficiently acquainted with these to give a satisfactory description of them.

"The article next in importance to the trade in timber, is that of grain. The island of Bilú, and the whole of the province of Martaban, is so remarkably fertile in grain, that when under the Burman government, a large number of boats found employment in the exportation of rice to Rangoon, notwithstanding the very cheap rate at which this article of food was usually obtainable in the vicinity of that place itself. During the lamentable scarcity of food which prevailed in Rangoon last year, the services of our new settlement were of the most important nature. Its large and seasonable exportations of rice alleviated the wants of thousands, before intelligence of the scarcity could be conveyed to Bengal, and a sufficient supply be received from thence. The price of paddy, during the Burman government, seldom exceeded ten ticals of flowered silver, or twelve rupees per 100 baskets. One hundred of these baskets afford forty baskets

baskets of cleaned rice (two and three quarters of which are equal to one bag), after the usual deduction for the labour of husking, the remuneration for which operation was invariably made in kind. It will be seen from this statement, that a bag of rice, exclusive of gunnies, and deliverable at the place of cultivation, would cost a little less than one rupee. The island of Bilú, the most productive portion of the province, affords every facility for transportation by land and water, and its proximity to Amherst would render the shipment of its crops both cheap and easy. The grain market, at present, bears a very different aspect in the province of Martaban, and it is probable the former low prices will never obtain again. The cause of this is obvious: the Burman government strictly prohibits the exportation of rice beyond its own territory, even when crops are most abundant; ours, with more liberal and enlightend views, declares this important branch of trade to be free and unshackled. The effects of this system are already evident; the prospect of realizing a higher price in a foreign market, has caused an advance in the price to nearly three times its usual rate, and the competition thus created will, in all probability, effect a yet further rise. Still, as the quantity of land suitable to the growth of rice and remaining yet uncultivated is immense, the price for many years to come will be comparatively moderate, and this article will no doubt prove a profitable export to the Malay coast, Pinang, the Isle of France, and the Coast of Coromandel.

"Before the Burman war, a caravan of pilgrims annually arrived at Rangoon from the country of the Shans, or Iao. I was present at Rangoon on its arrival in 1823. It consisted of about 2,000 people, who brought various articles of merchandise for sale or barter; such as sticklac, horses, cardamums, besides many descriptions of metals, drugs, medicines, and wearing apparel in use among the Burmans. I am led to believe that this caravan crosses a part of the Martaban district on its route to Rangoon, and the people composing it might probably, with a little encouragement, or perhaps indeed naturally, and of their own accord, be brought to hold the fair in our settlement. Should the sacred relic of Gaudama, deposited under the Golden Temple of Rangoon, be found to act too powerfully on the superstition of these pious pilgrims, some one possessing an equally strong religious attraction might probably be imported from Ceylon or Guya, and I may safely pronounce them not so inattentive to their temporal interests, as to neglect bringing their merchandise to the best market. In this case, the manufacture of lac dye might be carried on with every advantage. At the fair I have al-

luded to in 1823, the quantity of sticklac sold was between 2,000 and 3,000 maunds, and was of the very best quality. Their ponies also, of which there were several hundreds, were good, and would meet a ready sale.

"Another fair might be advantageously established on the Siamese frontier, and thus a new channel would be opened for the introduction of our manufactures into that country, which manufactures might be profitably exchanged for the products of Siam.

"After timber and rice, the articles of export which will, probably, be first available to the commerce of Amherst, are indigo and cotton. The former is rudely manufactured in large jars, and precipitated, or rather mixed with such enormous quantities of lime, as to render it useless in its present form to European commerce; but as the plant flourishes luxuriantly on the banks of all the rivers, when British capital and industry are employed in its cultivation, there is every reason to hope it will be prosecuted with success. The large and numerous islands, as well as the banks of the Saluen, are represented, by those well acquainted with this branch of agriculture, to be peculiarly well adapted to its cultivation.

"Cardamums, in small quantity, sesamum, oil, ivory, and bees'-wax, have long been exports from Martaban.

"As a dépôt, from which the Burmese, Lao, and probably the Siamese countries may with facility be supplied with British and Indian manufactures, Amherst is a settlement of the first importance. The short run by water between Amherst and Rangoon will secure the supply of that market to the former, by means of the Burmese trading boats and small coasting craft, while the extensive and populous tract of 'Toungoo will be supplied with much greater facility than from Rangoon. The capital of Ava, and the northern and eastern provinces of the empire, were furnished, before the war, with British manufactured cotton goods and woollens chiefly from Calcutta, by a long and difficult land carriage through Arracan. It is ascertained, that a much shorter and more practicable road is open through 'Toungoo, and there is little or no doubt existing, that trade will be beneficially diverted from its former channel, and that the Ava market will in future be supplied by native traders, who will cross from Martaban to Amherst to lay in their investments; an increased consumption will be the consequence. The greatest hindrance to commerce existing under the Burman tyranny, is the prohibition of the exportation of the precious metals; and thus the demands of this extensive country were never fully supplied, for want of an adequate medium of return. The utmost efforts of the Burman government, how-

ever, could not altogether prevent their being smuggled away from Rangoon; and British merchants, at no less a risk than the confiscation of their whole property, aid captains of ships of the seizure of the vessel, entered extensively into this illicit trade. During my residence in Rangoon, I knew an instance of a fine new ship, and more than one lac of rupees, which were smuggled on board her, seized and confiscated by the Burman government. This was fortunately not a British vessel, but had such been the case, she would inevitably have met the same fate. This difficulty, at least as far as British merchants are concerned, is completely overcome. The facility with which bullion can be transported to Amherst by way of Martaban is so great as to baffle all probable means of detection, and this single advantage gained will, in my opinion, increase the consumption of Indian and British manufactures in the Burman dominions to more than double what it was before the war.

"Another prohibition of the Burman government, the breach of which is severely punished, is the importation of opium, and I know an instance of an Englishman having been heavily fined, even under a false imputation of such an offence. This prohibition is very annoying to the Burmans, who are much addicted to the use of this drug, and give enormous prices for it to such of the Chinese as are fortunate enough to elude the vigilance of government in its importation. The vend of this article is always carried on with great caution and secrecy. Its usual price before the war was from two to three times its weight in pure silver, for the crude commodity. From Amherst, opium may be introduced into the heart of the Burman country with the greatest facility, as well as into Lao and Siam, and it is to be expected that the sale it finds at Amherst will be large. Several chests have already been imported and sold.

"It may safely be said, that every branch of trade in which European merchants were engaged in the Burman dominions, may be pursued with equal, and in most cases much greater prospect of success at Amherst; and I consider it one of the most important advantages gained by the late war, that while by the retention of that settlement our commercial intercourse with the Burmans and other neighbouring nations bears every prospect of considerable extension, it is also placed in such a state of security as could not have been accomplished by any other means. Our commerce is thereby relieved from the numerous petty exactions and annoyances, and our merchants from the more serious oppression and degradation, to which they were severally exposed by the haughtiness of the Burman govern-

ment, and the cupidity of its officers."—
[Cal. Gov. Gaz.]

LORD AMHERST'S GOVERNMENT.

The following tribute to the character of Lord Amherst's government, from an opposition print, is worthy of record:—

"We have heard rumours respecting the cause of Lord Amherst's recall, but they are so absurd that we cannot yield them the slightest belief, and therefore shall not give currency to them until we are satisfied that they are founded in fact. We are not prepared to express our sentiments very fully on the subject, neither perhaps are we quite at liberty to do so; we have nevertheless no hesitation in saying, that however much we are desirous of enjoying the benefit of a more liberal system of government than it has been deemed expedient to accord to the Hon. Company's possessions in British India, we yet feel grateful to Lord Amherst for the liberal construction he has put upon our Press regulations, and the considerable and unprecedented degree of freedom of discussion we have enjoyed under his Lordship's government. We hope that in this respect we may find our next Governor-general as liberally disposed."—*Bengal Hurkaru.*

EDUCATION.

We are much pleased to observe from the Bombay papers, that exertions are making at that Presidency to promote the cause of education among the natives of Western India; and that the Governor of Bombay himself gives his powerful and public sanction to the object. The chair of the annual meeting of the Native School and School-Book Society was taken by the Hon. Mr. Elphinstone, and, as might be expected, under a patronage so honourable, natives of influence and intelligence have come forward heartily in support of the institution. We some time ago directed the attention of our readers to the desire of a more distant body—the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland—to participate in this very good work: to the labours of the branch of that church established at this presidency, in meeting the Assembly's views, we wish a success proportioned to the excellent end they have in contemplation. We understand that they are now soliciting the assistance of all Scotchmen in India, to enable the General Assembly to bear its part with credit to their national church in this pious undertaking; and certainly, when we look to the highly respectable sanction under which they are acting, we must say, that no institution has been set forward, claiming more regard from the public in general, or having a better title to the support and countenance of those in authority,

authority, whose example will not fail to be attended with the best effects, in inducing native gentlemen of wealth and influence to step forward in aid of the same benevolent cause.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Feb. 14.

MURDER OF LIEUT. MONK.

The *India Gazette* of Feb. 22d contains the following particulars respecting the murder of Lieut. and Paymaster Monk, of H.M. 31st regiment, on the Ganges, in the district of Mirzapore, of which a hasty account was given in our last vol. p. 850:—

Mr. Monk was proceeding with a detachment of the regiment under the command of Capt. Bolton, by water, from Dinapore. Being some days behind the fleet, and very anxious to join it, he quitted his budgerow at Benares, and proceeded thence in a small oolak of about 300 maunds, in hopes of joining the fleet more expeditiously. On the evening of the 4th December, Mr. Monk's boat came to for the night at the end of a long sand-bank, below the village of Chuckoa, on the right bank of the river, and opposite Bourepoor on the other. The place is situated about half way between Allahabad and Mirzapore, and is described as a long low furrowed bank of sand, of a peculiarly wild and desolate aspect, and the banks on each side being high, and intersected with deep ravines. The locality had a bad name on account of the reputed lawless disposition of the inhabitants; and Mr. Monk was advised by the manjee of his boat not to put up there, but to pass to the other side of the river; unhappily for himself, he did not attend to this advice. The crew of Mr. Monk's boat consisted of a manjee, golyah, and five dandies. There were also on board Mr. Monk's dobee, and his son, a boy of about twelve years of age. It is not unworthy of remark, that three of Mr. Monk's servants had absconded the day previous to his murder. Between the hours of 10 and 11 o'clock, the boat was attacked by a band of decoits, supposed to be about fifty or sixty, some of whom entered the bow from shore, while two other parties of the same gang broke into the oolak from a dingy on each side. The golyah was on watch in the bow, and was speared at once. He died of his wounds two days afterwards. The rest of the crew were at this time sleeping on the chopper of the oolak, when the dobee (who was on the front part of the chopper) was awoke by the cries of the golyah. Hearing also his master calling out from the inside to know what was the matter, he jumped down on deck, and saw Mr. Monk, who was at the door of the apartment, or rude kind of cabin, and in the act of lifting up the purda at the en-

trance, and hastily informed him that they were attacked by decoits. At this juncture the dobee himself (who had a glance of the decoits breaking into the cabin from their doongas on each side) was thrown overboard into the river, and made his way to the bank, but afterwards returned to the boat. From his evidence, and that of the dandies, it seems that the first thing the decoits did was to bind the crew. It is supposed that they then bound the unfortunate Mr. Monk, and cast him into the stream, as there was a great noise heard as of a violent struggle, followed shortly by a plunge or splash in the water, as if something heavy had been thrown overboard. On examination of the cabin, every thing was found in great confusion. Mr. Monk's trunks were broken open, and the property missing. One of the feet of the couch was found wrenched off, as if the poor man had desperately clung to it. His sword was lying on the floor, with the ornaments torn away. In short, the confused state of the things in the cabin indicated that the deceased had made a desperate resistance. A human skeleton, it is said, has been found near the spot where the murder was perpetrated, supposed to be the remains of Mr. Monk.

The magistrates of Allahabad and Mirzapore have, we learn, taken the most active steps to ascertain all the particulars, and discover the perpetrators of this foul deed; a reward has also, we believe, been offered for the apprehension of the murderers. Mr. Monk, it seems, had very little property with him at the time, and nothing of value. The conduct of the three servants, who deserted him the day previous to the murder, is not without suspicion. A sharp inquiry has been instituted after them.

THE TREATY WITH SIAM.

The particular stipulations in this treaty are only of secondary value or importance; the grand object was to remove, by negotiation, the jealousies and fears of the Siamese court, increased by our late conquests in their neighbourhood, and artfully fostered by dependent authorities, who have their own ends to gain by involving us in hostilities with their most powerful neighbour. That this object will be effected by the treaty there is little reason to doubt, for whatever notions may be entertained in Europe of the grasping ambition of the British Indian Government, it is well known here, that territorial acquisitions in the eastern peninsula are by no means coveted. But if our own countrymen are so hard to convince, of what we regard as an indisputable fact, it must be expected that a nation of semi-barbarians, who can hardly separate the notions of ability and inclination to conquer, must look

look with extreme jealousy on a nation, whose power, though they may not be able to comprehend its extent, has lately proved sufficient to humble their most formidable neighbour. Different sentiments can only be expected from a long continuance of friendly intercourse, which, as disputes must inevitably arise in the course of trade, can only be maintained by a provision for settling differences in a friendly manner. That this object will be attained by the present treaty can scarcely be doubted, and we think more effectually, than if it had contained stipulations for the restoration of the King of Quoda, whose support could scarcely fail of giving offence to a court of which he is the rebellious vassal. With regard to the commercial treaty, its articles are as liberal as could possibly be expected. The mode of charging duty by measuring the ship is objectionable, from the unequal burthen which it imposes on small and large vessels. But it is greatly preferable to the uncertainty of duties, and the system of bribes and presents which before prevailed. The merchant can now make his calculations safely, and he may easily find vessels so suitable to the stipulations of the treaty that the new duties will not fall on them, with such weight as to render the trade unprofitable. If any proof were required that the new mode of taxing our commerce is preferable to the old, it would be afforded by the fact (which we state on our own knowledge) that the Chinese traders, on being acquainted with the treaty, petitioned the Siamese government to place their trade on the same favourable footing as that of the English.—*Bengal Hurk. Feb. 23.*

SURVEY OF ARRACAN.

The brig *William*, a fine little vessel of 150 tons burthen, is, we learn, hired by government for the purpose of being employed in the survey department, under the command of Capt. Crawford, of the H. C.'s Bombay marine, who proceeds in her forthwith to survey the coast of Arracan, which is still, notwithstanding our frequent intercourse with it of late, very imperfectly known.—*Calcutta Chronicle, Feb. 27.*

GAITIES AT BENARES.

Letter from Benares.—“Perhaps in these dull times, when money is so scarce in Calcutta, and when poor subs like myself have so little of it to send to our agents, your readers might beguile a lazy-pacing moment by a rude unlettered detail of transactions at Benares. In the first place, Sir, we are drilled beyond all endurance, and much have our superiors to answer for in thus exposing us to the chilling blasts of bitter cold weather, not

forgetting the heavy expenditure of country-made boots in dewy mornings—then, Sir, in the next place, I do not think there is that alacrity shewn, by those who can afford it, in giving what we prize highly, a blow-out, so frequently as we perhaps foolishly expect; excepting always our much esteemed general, who is hospitality personified. Well, Sir, here have we been going on in the hum-drum way of parades, every morning, large appetites for breakfast gratified by hard-boiled eggs, and half-baked sandy bread, to keep life in us till 4 o'clock! Parade again, recompensed by a kid chop, a curry, or a grilled fowl, washed down by a glass of cold water, with a slight dash of blue ruin in it: for beer, Mr. Editor, our strength and our delight, is beyond our reach, being eighteen rupees per dozen. In this deplorable plight had we been during the only season when the good things of this life are really productive of enjoyment; when, happy day! the inspection of the Artillery, was announced for the 25th inst. (January). Cards of invitation were issued for breakfast and dinner, after the review, and all were kept alive and in good-humour.—‘The great, the avenging day’ came; the practice was excellent; the mine was fired by a ten-inch shell in a masterly style, and off we scampered to a most elegant suite of tents, where were found tables laid out, in a manner altogether enchanting; there were humps and tongues, collars of beef and pork, from that pink of perfection, John Havell. In one place, the fragrant fish just out of the frying pan; at another, hams of pork and of beef; and, to crown the whole, beauty, lovely beauty, sparkling on every side. The day passed over too rapidly, and evening came; but how shall I describe what followed! About eighty sat down to a most splendid dinner; harmony and good-humour prevailed; so did good wines and abundance of beer; and after the usual ceremony of toasting, we proceeded to procure digestion by the ‘light fantastic toe.’ Dancing was kept up until 11 o'clock, and then, when with a sorrowful heart each man began to look for his shakoe, we were invited to return to the joys of the table, and there we found a magnificent cold collation! I cannot carry you beyond this; but I believe I reached my bungalow about the time the sun’s chariot wheels were discernible in the east; for just as I had got snug under the ruggee, a rascally bearer called me for parade. But this is not all, Mr. Editor: a paper is now actually in circulation for a bachelor’s ball on the 30th; so that we have the prospect of really enjoying the remainder of the cold season. Let me also tell you, that a subscription theatre is nearly finished, and we look forward to great amusement in this way in a month

or so. On the whole, we are now all in spirits, and I have determined to let our friends know that we are so.”—[*Cal. Gov. Gaz.*, Feb. 6.

DISHONESTY OF PETTY TRADESMEN.

A correspondent in one of the Calcutta papers has furnished convincing proofs of the knavery of the native bazaar dealers in that city, in respect to weights and measures. He reckons that, by re-weighing the commodities they sell, from five to ten per cent. may be saved. The writer uses his own weights, and finds the quantity of the goods sold invariably short a few seers, sometimes nine in a maund. The native dealers, he adds, are excellent accountants in their own favour, and invariably, in an account, make a *mistake* against the person with whom they deal.

NEW STEAM VESSEL.

The new steamer *Ganges*, launched yesterday from Messrs. Kyd's and Co.'s dock-yard at Kidderpore, is one of the two vessels that were ordered by the Supreme Government to be constructed for the Hon. Company. The present one is precisely the same as the *Irawaddy*, launched on new year's day. Both these vessels have been built under the immediate directions of Mr. Seppings, the Hon. Company's surveyor, and the fixing of the machinery under Lieutenant Forbes, of the Engineer Corps. The drawings of the vessels were originally prepared by Sir Robert Seppings, the surveyor of his Majesty's navy—the engines having been obtained from the Lords of the Admiralty, who had them in store at the commencement of the Burmah war, and, at the particular request of the Court of Directors, gave them up, as others could not be procured in time. On the receipt of the drawings it was found necessary to alter them for the climate; and the present design, from which they have been built, was given by Mr. Seppings, the eldest son of Sir Robert. The workmanship, and manner in which they have been built, reflects credit on the establishment of the contractors, Messrs. Kyd and Co. Each vessel is to be armed with twelve brass guns,—to be schooner-rigged, so as to unite steaming and sailing, or using either one or the other, as the case may require. The commands are given to Captains West and Jump; the former has rendered very important services to government during the Burmah war: the latter was chief mate of the Hon. Company's steamer *Enterprise*, on her passage out to India. The *Ganges* and the *Irawaddy* were built by public competition, Mr. Seppings having invited contracts from the different builders on the river Hooghly. The launch took place in the presence of his

Excellency Lord Combermere, and the vessel received her name from his Lordship. She glided into the Hooghly in grand style.—[*Cal. John Bull*, Feb. 16.

KING'S AND COMPANY'S OFFICERS.

The *Military Repository* of Calcutta contains an article, in reply to a pamphlet by a king's officer, published in England, on the exclusion of his Majesty's officers from the staff of the Indian army, the following extracts from which may be interesting to our military readers:—“I must here notice the absurdity of a maxim, upon which the author seems to have grounded almost all his arguments regarding the fancied exclusion of king's officers from the Indian army staff. It is in substance this, that the *officers* present with the Cavalry and Infantry divisions of his Majesty's forces in India (which in 1825 amounted to 725) had a claim to such a number of staff situations in the Indian army as were proportionate to the ratio which *their* number (725) bore to that of all the Company's officers present with that army (which in the Cavalry and Infantry branches of the service was, at the period in question, 2,935,) supposing always such a number of king's officers, duly qualified for the Indian staff. According to this doctrine, there being 3,660 officers of Cavalry and Infantry present with those branches of the army in India in 1825, and 483 staff appointments usually filled up from the line, his Majesty's 725 officers were entitled to ninety-three, instead of to the eighty-three, mentioned in my table.

“But it is evident, that the number of staff officers in *any* army, must always depend upon the number of forts, garrisons, cantonments, brigades, divisions, circles, and other fractional parts into which its several branches are respectively broken, and these again upon the nature and extent of the country and its frontier, upon the nature of the service, upon a state of peace or war, and upon the number and nature of the regiments and corps composing the several branches of the army; but *never* (as insisted by the author) upon the numerical strength of *officers* present with any particular branch or division of that army, whether such division be of Cavalry or Infantry, European or Native, and whether these officers be of the King's or Company's service.

“Let us apply this rule to the service in India during the year 1825; when our author's pamphlet was circulating in London. The Cavalry and Infantry branches of the army in India were then composed of 191 regularly officered corps of the line, twenty-two of these being of his Majesty's service, occupying only fourteen different stations, and 169 of the Hon. Company's corps,

corps, scattered over an immense tract of territory, and occupying 107 other different stations of the army. These stations were so situated, and the force so disposed, that 483 staff officers were required from the line, including personal staff, the staff of forts, garrisons, brigades, divisions, circles, and of separate chief commands.

	Corps.	Staff.	King's corps.	Staff.
Then, if	191:	483 ::	22:	should have only 56
				Company's corps.
Again, if	191:	483 ::	169:	should have 427
				Stations. King's station.
Or, if	121:	483 ::	14:	..... nearly 56
				Company's station.
Or again, if	122:	483 ::	107:	..... nearly 427

But in 1825 there were 83 king's officers on the Indian staff, and only 400 of the Company's service. "A King's Officer," therefore, placed himself and brethren of the royal service rather in a "false position," by asserting "the exclusion of his Majesty's officers from the staff of the Indian army," when instead of only fifty-six, so large a proportion as eighty-three officers, out of twenty-two corps, at fourteen stations of the army, were at that moment so employed.

"But on examining my table, it will appear, that in the year 1825, there were more than 169 corps of the line in the Hon. Company's service. The actual number (even exclusive of artillery or engineers) being 238; there being sixty-nine cavalry and infantry corps, constantly liable to join the line, *viz.* the body guards of Governors, extra local, marine, rifle, regular, pioneer, and provincial corps and battalions, &c. &c., the officers of all of which, with those of the engineers and artillery, have, to the prejudice of the Company's service, been omitted in the above comparisons. A more just proportion would, therefore, (still excluding the artillery and engineers,) be as follows:—

Company's	King's	give	Staff,	King's	Should	have
corps.	corps.	then	corps.	staff.		
If 238	+ 22 :	483 ::	22 :	41	nearly.	
				King's.	Staff.	Company's
If 238	+ 22 :	483 ::	238 :	442.		

which would reduce the complement of his Majesty's officers on the Indian Staff from eighty-three to only forty-one, and increase that of the Hon. Company from 400 to 442.

"But if excluded from officering *corps composed entirely of natives in the service of the Hon. Company*, if excluded from filling situations of a strictly civil nature in the Company's service, or from occupying others, whether civil or military, in the service of native states, such as are referred to in the 7th, 8th, and 9th columns of my table, his Majesty's officers surely ought not to complain. Yet the local and native Governments of India, possessing the exclusive patronage of these situations, have opened even many of them to King's officers.

Indeed the table given not only shews that his Majesty's officers were not debarred from the service of the native states, but that almost one officer in every second corps was on an average so employed, being a much higher average than existed even in the Company's service.

"Again, although the East India Company, by granting so very small a complement of European officers to their regular corps, as is exhibited in my table, and by not giving European officers at all to more than three times the number of corps his Majesty's service supplies to India, may be shewn most seriously to affect the promotion of their own officers; yet I cannot perceive how any one of his Majesty's officers, on the mere strength of the transfer of his regiment to the King's Indian establishment, can possess a "claim" to withdraw, however temporarily, from his own immediate service, and to demand, either as a matter of justice, of equity, or of right, to enter the service of the Hon. Company, or into that of any of the native Indian states."

The writer then instances several King's officers (including Sir Archibald Campbell) so employed at the very moment the author of the pamphlet was proclaiming their "exclusion." He proceeds:—

"What I have stated will, I think, convince every unprejudiced person, not only that his Majesty's officers were not in 1825 "excluded from the Indian Staff," but that they enjoyed a large portion of it, larger indeed than that to which the strength, or even the importance of their branches of the service, great as that is, could entitle them. True, they must generally, though not always, be excluded from the Hon. Company's service, to which it may be doubted if they have more claim than when in the peninsula of Europe, to that of their Majesties of Portugal, of Spain, or of the Netherlands. But it is not the East-India Company, or their local governments, who prevent their being so employed. It is circumstances peculiar to the constitution of the royal service, opposed as these are to that of the Hon. Company. It is the awkward necessity under which the local governments of India are placed, of being obliged to solicit and to obtain the previous permission of the commander in chief of his Majesty's forces to any appointment of a King's officer. It is the incongruity of employing in the Company's service officers not holding any commission from their local governments, whose regiments are constantly removed from one Indian Presidency, or Government, to another; and who are constantly liable (almost at their own individual pleasure) to withdraw, by exchange or purchase, from India to Europe, and consequently from their service. It is the necessarily limited knowledge

ledge existing among the civil and military authorities in the Company's employ, regarding the particular conduct, character, and qualifications of individual officers in his Majesty's regiments, owing to the constant changes and removals to Europe, and the short residence in India of most of the officers of those corps. It is the superior injury which European regiments suffer (when compared to that to which native regiments, with a proportion of native officers, are liable,) when many European officers are taken away for Staff or other employ; and it is the objections made by commanding officers of corps, against individuals they do not patronize being thus employed. It is these, and a number of other circumstances, incident to the distinct and peculiar constitution of the two services, that necessarily exclude his Majesty's officers, while in the full or half pay of the crown, from being generally employed by the local governments of India, whether European or native. But to assume that the officers of his Majesty's corps in India have ever been unfairly excluded from an equitable share of the "*Indian Army Staff*," is to prefer an accusation which I contend is unfounded in fact, against those high-minded officers of his majesty's service, who have in this country successively filled the elevated stations of Governor-general, and Commander in Chief."

NATIVE JURORS.

The *John Bull*, in allusion to the alleged dissatisfaction of the Hindoos of Calcutta at the New Jury Bill, (they are said to be "rather dissatisfied with what has not been done than displeased with what has been achieved") has the following remarks:—Another consideration, however, has been forgotten, which ought to have been before the framers and passers of this Bill. No allowance has been made for the effect of such exclusion as has been enacted on the pride of human nature; and it is this principle, we suspect, that is, in a great measure, exciting the dissatisfaction felt by the better classes of the natives, who are alone interested in the measure. Religious feelings and prejudices come powerfully in aid of this principle; and although without its presence, these feelings might not have been stirred up, we are not to set them down, in all cases, as devoid of sincerity. But it may be pertinent to remark, that when the natives of this country are found actuated by such considerations, and really dissatisfied at not having been treated with equal respect as Europeans by the Legislature of England, something like proof is afforded, that they have advanced not a little in civilization, since they came under our dominion. They have learnt to respect themselves—one of the first steps in the progress of civil improvement

—and we are far from regretting, that they should be found making the stand they are said to be meditating against the extension of a boon coupled with conditions, which they imagine must degrade them in the eyes of the world. In adverting to the jury bill it is to be kept in view, that it is only the higher and better informed Hindoos at Calcutta who are at all interested in it, so far as it regards the natives; and those who have framed the Act at home are not perhaps aware, that a wealthy Baboo of the City of Palaces, would think it no honour to sit down in the same Jury Box with an honest English tradesman. Their intercourse with what they esteem higher caste people, has corrupted their notions in this respect, and led them to look to grand rather than petit juries, as the places of honour, to which they are entitled to aspire. There, however, they cannot arrive, under this Act, unless they are Christians; and we shall not be surprised, with their view of matters, to find them regarding the privilege held forth under this condition, as a sort of *bonus* on conversion—than which we ourselves believe, nothing was farther from the intention of Parliament.

SCINDIAH.

The *Shems-al-Akhbar* contains a statement respecting this chieftain which furnishes a characteristic picture of the absurd policy of these princes:—"On the 13th January, Hindu Rao reported that he, agreeably to orders, presented to each of the Brahmans of Gunga and Choubes of Mattara, in all about two thousand persons, one rupee, a ser of sweetmeats, and a *lotu* of rice, on approach of the Sankranti; on the same occasion also, letters had been addressed to Captain Stewart, and to the principal gentlemen of Agra, with a small bag of sesamum seeds, for good luck. On the 15th, the Ali Sholes having become clamorous for pay, threatened to force access to the Maharaja."—Here is a chief, once powerful enough to inspire the British government with apprehension, risking his throne and his life, by wasting upon idle Brahmans money which is due to his dependents!

PAPER CURRENCY.

We adverted in our last to the proceedings of the Native Sharaffs, respecting the receipt of bank notes, to which it appeared, that some of their community had started objections. According to the report of the meeting given in the Native papers nothing was then definitely settled, and it was expected, that a subsequent meeting would be called, at which final resolutions would be adopted. As the proceedings have excited some interest, we have made inquiry as to their result, and are happy to find that, although no meet-

ing has since taken place, the final determination of all the leading Native Bankers has been practically expressed, and all opposition to the circulation of the issues of different banks in Calcutta, has been withdrawn. The objections were, in fact, confined to a few individuals, and the majority of the bankers have, throughout, felt reluctant to obstruct the ordinary course of commercial transactions in Calcutta.—*Cal. Gov. Gaz. Feb. 12.*

NEWSPAPER SQUABBLES.

The *ci-devant* editor of the *Bengal Chronicle*, Mr. Sutherland, whose conduct in regard to the pledge given to Government (see pp. 237 and 238), was so severely animadverted on by the *John Bull*, has published, in the *Calcutta Chronicle*, a very acrimonious reply to the editor of that work, wherein occur the following passages:—

“The proprietor of the *Bengal Chronicle* pledged himself to remove me from the editorship, as a condition of a renewal of his license; but it is affirmed that he ‘kept the promise only to the ear and not to the sense.’ How stands the fact? Mr. Adam gave in his name to Government as my successor, and swore that he had in fact as well as in name, become so. Did he then not exercise the functions of editor? It is not denied that he did. How then was the pledge to Government in any way violated? Why, because in order to make the duty lighter he offered me, the *ex-editor* as the *Bull* calls me, an engagement as a contributor! And in order to secure my acceptance of that offer, fixed my remuneration at half his own salary; but is any proof advanced that he himself did not retain his individual control over the paper—that he neither suffered myself or others to publish in it any thing not previously submitted to his censorship and approbation? I maintain that he did, and defy the *John Bull* to disprove it. Where then was the breach of faith on the part of the proprietor or myself (Mr. Adam is by a fine drawn distinction excepted from the blame) towards either the Government or the public? As a proof that Mr. Adam did exercise that entire control over the paper which insured the object of the Government in insisting on my proposed removal, I appeal to the fact of the moderation of tone employed after his accession, in speaking of the *John Bull* itself. Does my accuser imagine that if I had, as he would have it inferred, in fact though not in name, retained the office of editor, his malicious effusions on the occasion of my removal from the office would have escaped the castigation they deserved; but which it would have been inconsistent with the new editor’s character and pledge to the public, to have admitted? If he should be

of this opinion he is deceived—let him now discard it: for if he will believe no other assertion of mine—he may at least take my word for this, that I should most cordially hate him, if he were not in my estimation so contemptible that I can only despise him.

“But a casual expression of mine, ‘I will do as much as ever,’ and the mention of my having been employed on a leading article for the *Bengal Chronicle*, would seem to be relied on as sufficient evidence of my having, in breach of the proprietor’s pledge to Government, been still retained as the actual editor. The expression, it is almost needless to say, referred to the *quantity* to be written—and the subsequent language clearly implies, that by my writing as much as I had done when actually editor, in addition to what you, as then editor, would write, would render the paper ‘more valuable’ by this increase of original matter. Of the character of what was written you were to be the sole judge—and to admit, reject, or alter my communications as you would those of any other contributor paid or unpaid. Again then I ask, where was the breach of faith to Government? No; but I had affirmed that my ‘occupation was gone;’ and so in truth it was, when I thus expressed myself, nor has it in fact to this hour been resumed; but I will go further than this, for I again declare, that when I employed this language I had no idea of again writing *editorially* even—for the *Chronicle*, or any other paper. The slanderer in the *Bull* may deny or disbelieve this, deeming me as unscrupulous as himself, but he cannot disprove it, and my title to public belief is, to say the least of it, as good as his own.”

The editor of the *Calcutta Chronicle*, in a note to this letter, observes:—“We claim no exemption from the censure that has been pronounced if it be deserved, for it was through us alone, but without any objection from Mr. D’Rozario, that Mr. Sutherland was induced to continue his assistance to the paper under our control and responsibility: control which Mr. Sutherland himself best knows we never hesitated to exercise when we thought it necessary, and responsibility from which we will not now shrink.”

The perturbed state of feeling which these perpetual broils denote, and into the vortex of which every individual who connects himself with the newspaper press at Calcutta seems to be unavoidably drawn, is very much to be deplored. It may, however, serve as a criterion at home to those who have not arrived at a decided opinion on the question of a free press in India.

CHOWRINGHEE THEATRE.

Our Chowringhee Drury was very full on Friday night, and much satisfaction appeared

appeared to be elicited by the able and admirable manner in which "*The Waterman*" and "*Monsieur Tonson*" were performed. It was not the first time that these two popular pieces formed a most gratifying evening's entertainment to our philo-Thespiacs; and the attraction on Friday, so far from having diminished, appeared to have much increased, especially when we recollect that in such a full and brilliant house, proprietors had consented to forego their privileges for the evening.

We have reviewed "*Monsieur Tonson*," so lately, that we have nothing further to add to our remarks on the occasion alluded to. Suffice it, that *Morbleu*, if possible, surpassed his former excellence;—that he was most capably well dressed and accoutred altogether, carried himself admirably well throughout, and entirely identified himself with the whimsical character of the distracted but most exquisitely amusing old Frenchman.—[*India Gaz.*, Feb. 12.

ACTING ADVOCATE GENERAL.

The appointment of Mr. Turton to act as Advocate General during the absence of Mr. Pearson, raised two questions of some importance in the practice of the Court; first, whether the situation of Advocate General conferred the right of leading the bar, as is done by the appointment of Attorney General in England; and secondly, if it did not, whether the five barristers, who are senior to Mr. Turton, could yield their right of pre-audience to him, without the consent of his juniors. Both these questions were referred to the judges, and determined in the negative. We understand that these questions were merely raised to settle the right; for so strong was the personal feeling towards Mr. Turton, that no sooner was the right determined, than the whole bar unanimously requested the judges to give him the lead; which was notified to him in Court by the Chief Justice, and he accordingly took the leader's chair.

SHIPPING.

Arrivals in the River.

Feb. 26. *Passoe*, Cathre, from Madras.—28. *Encas*, De Freitas, from Lisbon.

Departures from Calcutta.

Feb. 15. *Symmetry*, Smith, for London, and *Lady Blackwood*, Lambert, for Ceylon.—22. *Cumbrian*, Blyth, for Bombay.—25. *Sherburne*, White, for Bombay.—26. *Coromandel*, Bayes, for London; and *Columbia*, Kirkwood, for Liverpool.—March 3. *Rockingham*, Fotheringham, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Feb. 7. At Bareilly, the lady of W. S. Charters, Esq., M.D., of a daughter.
— At Bankpore, Mrs. J. S. Musgrove, of a son.

8 At Meerut, the lady of Capt. Roberts, superintendent of public works, of a son.
— At Benares, the lady of Capt. Watkins, 62d N.I., of a daughter, still-born.
9. At Mehidpore, the lady of J. Graham, M.D., of a daughter.
12. At Huncerpore, North Bundlekund, the lady of W. H. Valpy, Esq., civil service, of a daughter.
16. At Dacca, Mrs. C. Billings, of a son.
20. At Pooree, the lady of Dr. Brander, of a son.
22. Mrs. E. Hughes, of a son.
23. The lady of Lieut. W. Benson, 4th Bengal L.C., of a daughter.
24. Mrs. W. Bason, of a son.
25. At Bishop's College, the lady of the Rev. Professor Cravan, of a son.
Lastly. At Huncerpore, North Bundlekund, the lady of Gavin Turnbull, Esq., civil surgeon, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 19. At the Cathedral, A. Courage, Esq., to Miss F. Osborn.
26. Mr. W. Hogan, to Mrs. A. Mavrody, relict of the late Mr. L. C. Mavrody, of the Western Board.
— Mr. G. Brown, to Maria, eldest daughter of the late Capt. J. Pereira.

DEATHS.

Feb. 18. Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Jas. Black, branch pilot, H.C.'s marine.
24. John Sanford, Esq., senior judge of the provincial court of appeal and circuit for division of Calcutta, aged 51.

Madras.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

March 8. Mr. T. H. Baber, 1st judge of provincial court of appeal and circuit for western division.
15. Mr. F. Hall, assistant to principal collector and magistrate of Madura.

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS, &c.

Fort St. George, Feb. 9, 1827.—*Infantry*. Sen. Maj. J. Moore, from 48th N.I., to be lieutenant-col., v. Jollie dec.; date 27th Sept. 1826.

48th N.I. Sen. Capt. T. Youngson to be major in suc. to Moore prom.; date 27th Sept. 1826. Sen. Lieut. R. Alexander to be capt., and Sen. Ens. C. Taylor to be lieutenant, v. Mussita invalidated; date 11th Oct. 1826.

Lieut. R. N. Campbell, 4th N.I., permitted to place his services at disposal of government of Fort Cornwallis.

Feb. 13.—1st N.I. Lieut. J. D. Awdry to be quart. mast., interp., and paym., v. Hodge placed under orders of government of Fort Cornwallis.

4th N.I. Lieut. C. Church to be adj., v. Campbell placed under orders of ditto.

48th N.I. Lieut. R. Watts to be quart. mast., interp., and paym., v. Alexander prom.

Artillery. Sen. 1st-Lieut. J. Aldritt to be capt., v. Gamage dec.; date 28th Sept. 1826. 2d-Lieut. G. W. V. Simpson to be 1st-lieut. from 25th June 1824, v. Rudyerd, dec.

Engineers. Lieut. W. H. Atkinson to be 2d-lieut. from 16th Dec. 1824. Lieut. T. T. Pears, A. De Butts, and E. Buckle, to be 2d-lieuts. from 16th June 1825.

46th N.I. Sen. Lieut. A. Pinson to be capt., and Sen. Ens. C. Rowlandson to be lieutenant, v. O'Reilly retired; date 3d June 1826.

Head-Quarters, Feb. 10.—Ens. J. S. Mackenzie removed, at his own request, from 52d to 46th N.I.

Feb. 20.—Lieut. Col. H. J. Bowler removed from 28th to 15th regt., and Lieut. Col. J. Moore (late prom.) posted to 28th N.I.

Feb. 22.—Assist.surg. A. Warrand removed from 21st to 35th N.I.

Assist. surg. W. Welliton appointed to 21st N.I.

Feb. 23.—Assist.surg. J. P. Grant directed to afford medical aid to troops and followers proceeding to Prince of Wales' Island on H.C.'s ship *Hastings*.

Feb. 26.—Capt. J. Gorton (recently transf. to non-effective estab.) posted to 2d Nat. Vet. bat. at Nellore.

FURLOUGHS.

To *Europe*.—Feb. 16. Maj. B. Baker, 4th N.I., for health.

To *Cape of Good Hope and St. Helena*.—Feb. 9. Assist.surg. T. Thornton, for twelve months, for health.—20. Maj. J. G. Bonner, principal commissary of ordnance, in charge of arsenal of Fort St. George, ditto, ditto (eventually to Europe).

LAW.

SUPREME COURT, February 13.

Rules relating to Juries.—A table of the rules and regulations laid down and established by the Supreme Court of Judicature at this Presidency, in pursuance and in explanation of the act, 7 Geo. IV. for regulating the appointment of jurors in the East Indies, was read and published in open court this day.

These rules and regulations are the same as those established by the Supreme Court at Calcutta (of which an abstract was given in our last volume, p. 845), with the following slight exceptions:—

In the first of the Madras rules, the qualification of a juror is the occupation of a tenement of the monthly value of thirty rupees, or the annual value of 300 rupees; or the being worth 3,000 rupees; instead of fifty rupees, 500, and 5,000.

In the second, the conditions of being able to read and write, are omitted.

In the fifth, amongst the grounds of exemption from petit juries, the possession of 200,000 rupees, is omitted.

In other respects the rules are the same *verbatim*.

MISCELLANEOUS.

MURDER OF LIEUT. DALLAS AT NAGPORE.

Lieut. Dallas of the Rifle Corps, (at Kamptee, the British cantonment near Nagpore), having disposed of his house, had commenced building another, and had pitched his tents in the compound of the new house in which he was living. An officer of the same corps had his tents pitched in the same compound, and the servants of the deceased were lodged in a baggage tent close at hand; over the latter a sepoy was stationed. On the night of the 22d February, some villain entered the tent, whether with an intent to rob or to assassinate is yet doubtful. It is presumed the miscreant must have been in some

measure dressed, a large turban, a cumley, and a string of beads having been found in the tent; an unusual incident in cases when plunder is the object, and especially from the small inducement which offered to attract the notice of a thief, there being scarcely any property in the tent, except a few articles of furniture, &c. Whatever might have been the object of the villain, it is evident a scuffle must have taken place, the table, glasses, &c. having been found upset. No other person slept in the tent; but his chockra, or servant boy, was sleeping outside of it. The officer in the neighbouring tent, as well as the chockra, heard the struggle, and on the deceased exclaiming, "*Chor chor, khalasee puckerro*," the officer immediately ran over to the tent, and on approaching it, saw the villain run off, and his friend drop; and came up only in time to see him breathe his last. The deceased was wounded in three places—one wound on the right side, another on the left shoulder, and a third on the breast; the latter was three or four inches deep. The sepoy stationed near the baggage tent pursued the assassin, but hearing the screams of the chockra over his poor master's body, unfortunately gave up the pursuit, and returned to the tent; the articles abandoned by the villain in the struggle, will, we trust, lead to the discovery of the murderer. Parties from the corps were sent out to scour the country, and to take up all suspicious characters; and it is reported that they have succeeded in taking up a man with a bloody cloth, and his hands cut apparently with broken glass; it is to be hoped the miscreant will be discovered, and brought to suffer the punishment he has so justly merited.—*Mad. Gov. Gaz.* March 15.

INCORPORATED SOCIETY FOR PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

We have much pleasure in giving insertion in our columns to a long list of donations and subscriptions to the Madras committee of the Incorporated Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. The contribution from Secunderabad is most liberal; and will appear the more so when it is known that this is the second successful appeal in the course of seven months to the benevolence of the residents at that station, who have also many calls on their bounty from local charities. We understand that on the re-opening of the church at Secunderabad, after its enlargement, the chaplain of the station preached a sermon in aid of the society's funds, and the result, as before noticed, must be exceedingly gratifying to the reverend gentleman, not only in respect to the assistance which this remittance will afford to the society's pious labours, but as the best proof that his own exertions among his hearers

hearers have not been in vain. We are informed also, that the Venerable the Archdeacon Vaughan, preached at Bangalore in behalf of the society, and the collection made at that station amounts to about 500 rupees.—*Madras Gov. Gaz. Feb. 1.*

RACE BALL.

The race ball, which took place on Monday at the Public Assembly Rooms, passed off with considerable eclat. His Excellency Sir George Walker and family, the Judges, and other leading members of the society were present. The next public entertainment will be the masked ball of Wednesday next, given by the bachelors of the Presidency—in expectation of which many a fair heart goes pit-a-pat stronger than it ever did before. We will not weaken the effect of the scene by giving any description of the arrangements which have been made for this magnificent fete.—*Madras Cour. Feb. 9.*

SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

March 11. *Victory*, Farquharson, from Calcutta.
—14. H.M.'s ships *Java*, *Cyrene*, *Champion*, and *Cochin*, from Trincomalee.

Departures.

March 13. *Mellish*, Vincent, for Calcutta.—16. *Victory*, Farquharson, for London.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

Feb. 16. At Kamptee, the lady of Capt. Keating, 41st N.I., of a daughter.
19. At Kamptee, the lady of Lieut. James Kerr, 2d Europ. regt., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 26. At Tanjore, Mr. William Trinder, to Miss Maria Uzeth.

27. At Arcot, Lieut. Geo. Elliot, 5th Madras L.C., to Charlotte, fourth daughter of the late Rev. H. Jeffreys.

March 2. At the Cathedral at St. Thomé, and on the 6th, at St. Mary's Church, Fort St. George, L. H. Stirling, Esq., to Miss Catharine Shaw.

3. At St. George's, H. C. Montgomery, Esq., civil service, to Leonora, eldest daughter of Maj. Gen. R. Pigot.

5. At St. George's Church, Henry Morris, Esq., of the civil service, to Rebecca, eldest daughter of Lieut. Col. Jackson.

DEATHS.

Feb. 17. At Bellary, Capt. N. Browne, H.M.'s 41st regt. of Foot.

20. At Mangalore, Capt. N. McNeill, 50th regt. N.I., in his 34th year.

23. At Kamptee, Lieut. H. J. Dallas, 6th regt. N.I., and qu. master, paymaster, and interpreter to rifle corps.

26. At Vizianagrum, Lieut. Col. T. Smithwalte, 16th N.I.

27. On board the *Eliza*, off Angenweel Fort, on the coast of Concan, Lieut. F. H. Cocker, 8th Madras N.I.

Bombay.

SHIPPING.

Arrival.

March 10. *Lonach*, Driscoll, from London.

Departure.

March 16. *Catherine*, Kincald, for Greenock.

BIRTHS AND MARRIAGES.

BIRTHS.

Feb. 14. At Colaba, the lady of Lieut. J. H. Bell, assist. auditor general, of a daughter.

15. At Poona, the lady of G.W. Anderson, Esq., of a daughter.

18. Mrs. F. Hutchinson, of a son.

22. Mrs. Hathways, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Feb. 12. Mr. Manoel Arquinho, jun., to Miss Aurella de O'Liveiro.

— Mr. John de Cruz, to Miss Maria Soares d'Abreu.

22. Mr. W. Brown, to Miss L. Court.

27. At St. Thomas's Church, Mr. C. Wilson, marshal of Bombay goal, to Ann, daughter of the late Chas. Bond, Esq., surgeon in the Isle of Ely, county of Cambridge.

Ceylon.

ADDRESSES TO THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

The following addresses were presented to the Hon. the Chief Justice, on his quitting the island :—

From the officers and proctors of the Supreme and Vice Admiralty Courts, to the Honourable Sir Hardinge Giffard, Knt. I.L.D., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Judicature in the Island of Ceylon.

Sir,—It is with no ordinary feelings of regret that we, the Officers and Practitioners of the Supreme and Vice-Admiralty Courts, view your approaching departure from this Island, although it may appear selfish in us to wish your longer continuance here, when we are aware of the many objects of your affection, who are anxiously awaiting your return to your native land, and to whose welfare your presence will so much conduce. Most of us who now address you have had the honour of being acquainted with you since your first arrival in this Island, and it is with feelings of pride and satisfaction we can declare, that the same firmness and integrity of conduct, the same love of justice, admirably tempered with humanity, the same manly, upright, generous feeling that have so distinguished you in the high and responsible office which for the last seven years you have so ably and honourably filled, were as eminently displayed by you in the character of an advocate, and drew from the public, on a former occasion, that tribute of praise which you so justly merited. Our feelings of admiration and respect for such virtues are in common with those of the public, and it would be needless to enter more fully into your high distinguished character which is too well-known and appreciated;—but we should consider ourselves wanting in duty were we not to record more particularly a sense of our many obligations to you. Your kind

kind and condescending manners, the indulgence which you have ever shewn us in the discharge of our respective duties under your superintendence, the desire you have on all occasions evinced to promote our interests, and the protection you have always afforded us, have impressed us with sentiments never to be erased, and imperiously call upon us to avow, in the most public manner, our gratitude, respect and esteem.

With these feelings, Sir, we now bid you farewell, and whether or not it shall be our good fortune to welcome you once more on this shore, the same feelings, with our sincere and heartfelt wishes for your welfare, will accompany you wherever you go, and we assure you that the name of Giffard will never be recollected by us but with associations the most pleasing. In conclusion, we pray that you may meet with a prosperous and speedy voyage, and that on your arrival in your native country you may find all those who are dear to you in health and happiness, which blessings may God spare you and them many years to enjoy.

We have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) V. W. VANDERSTRAATEN.

[Here follow 32 Signatures.]

THE REPLY.

Gentlemen and kind Friends,—For so an experience of seventeen years has taught me to esteem you—I receive your address with heartfelt gratitude. To have excited the feelings you have so handsomely expressed fully repays me for the anxiety I have ever felt, honestly and firmly, to discharge my duty, whether at the bar or on the bench, so as to effect the most good with the least possible injury to others. By your address I am taught to believe that I have successfully pursued this principle, which will, I trust, continue to be endeared to me by your indulgent approbation.

To leave associates in whom I have ever found such cordial friendship and powerful support, even with the prospect before me of rejoining my beloved children, is not without its pangs. I feel them deeply when I recollect your unvarying kindness, and that my term of life and other circumstances render it so unlikely that I shall ever again enjoy it; but this record of your affectionate regard must be, and will be, my best consolation.

In my learned and excellent colleague you will find yourselves abundantly compensated for any supposed loss by my absence—to the same good wishes towards you which I have always felt, he adds a mild firmness of temper which gives weight and dignity to every act. He will, I doubt not, experience, though he may not require, the full extent of indulgence with

which you have honoured my conduct—and whenever he shall feel it necessary to return to his native country, he will have to record, that which I do most sincerely, that never has he met with kinder friends, or more honourable persons, than the officers and practitioners of the Supreme Court of Judicature in Ceylon.

I am, &c.

HARDINGE GIFFARD.

From the Inhabitants of Colombo to the Hon. Sir Hardinge Giffard.

Honourable Sir.—We, the inhabitants of Colombo, viewing with deep concern the near approach of your lordship's departure from the highest seat of justice in this island, which you have for upwards of seven successive years exemplarily adorned by an eminent display of impartiality, vigilance and a strict observance of justice, beg leave to assure your lordship that this our unfeigned and heartfelt regret on such an occasion, stands faithfully associated with feelings of pride and satisfaction, while we contemplated the steady and unremitted attention to the interests and privileges of all ranks and classes of inhabitants in this community which has been the distinguished character of your high career; neither can our country at large be wanting in admiration of your eminent talents and philanthropic disposition displayed in the most essential and proper virtues of a Judge, without venturing to say that they who had the pleasure of pursuing their legal duties under your superintendence, and who also have now the misfortune to be deprived of it, will bear testimony to your unwearied patience on the bench, independence of spirit and uniform integrity.

We trust we do not exceed the legitimate object of a farewell address, which disowns adulation or flattery, when we beg to express our admiration of the magnanimity of your lordship's justice in every case brought before you, in the decision of which you have never omitted to state with great perspicuity the principles of the law, which has occasioned great satisfaction amongst the parties, and has been the means of preventing future similar litigations. We feel therefore at a loss for sufficient expressions (though with many words) to convince you of our high esteem, affection, and testimony of gratitude which is justly due to you.

Cherishing a hope to have the happiness of soon greeting you again on this shore, we beg you will now accept of our best wishes for a safe and pleasant voyage to yourself and family, and now take our leave with a veneration and respect which no time can obliterate, nor can the most grateful heart sufficiently express.

. We

We have the honour to subscribe ourselves with profound respect, &c.

(Signed) A. ARMOUR.

Colombo, 26th Feb. 1827.

[Here follow 215 Signatures.]

THE REPLY.

Colombo, 26th Feb. 1827.

Gentlemen.—For this kind and highly flattering address I do most sincerely thank you.

Many and obvious circumstances render my return to Ceylon so doubtful that I must accept this mark of your regard as a farewell token from friends whom I can scarcely hope ever to see again; as such I shall cherish it in my dearest recollection. Your approbation of my judicial conduct is valuable and gratifying on many accounts—it is valuable as the spontaneous testimony of those, who, as jurors or suitors, have had the fullest opportunity of observing that conduct, and, conveyed in such terms as it is, cannot but excite the warmest acknowledgments I can offer. But it is doubly valuable in another view—it is the sincere and unbiassed suffrage of those whose permanent situation in this country has given them the deepest interest in its prosperity, in the pure and honest administration of that public justice which is the surest guardian of that prosperity, and without which, it could not exist.

Do not suppose, Gentlemen, that I am so arrogant as to think I could have obtained—I will not say deserved—this proof of your approbation, had I not during my judicial labours always found support and assistance from the inhabitants of Colombo—in affording that support and assistance you have given to the administration of justice a weight and character which a different conduct might have much diminished—and in doing so you have consulted the best interests of the people of Ceylon. Nor can I forget that I owe much to my brethren on the bench; and in parting from you Gentlemen, I feel that I leave you a powerful protection in the firmness and ability of my present excellent colleague; many years of constant intercourse have proved to me his value, and it is gratifying to me to reflect that the inhabitants of Colombo, whom an acquaintance of nearly seventeen years has taught me so highly to regard, will sustain little loss in the absence of one on whom they are pleased to set an estimate so far beyond his pretensions.

With my earnest prayers for your future welfare, I again offer my sincere thanks for your kindness.

Believe me, very faithfully, your obliged and grateful humble servant,

HARDINGE GIFFARD.

Sir Hardinge died on his passage home, on board the *Lady Kennaway*, April 30.

DEATH.

Feb. 18. At Colombo, Mr. Hendrich Demmer, eldest son of the late Mr. J. H. Demmer, aged 32.

Penang.

LAW.

The last Sessions of Oyer and Terminer for the year past, was opened at the Court House on Wednesday the 20th Dec., by the Hon. the Governor, the Hon. J. Prince, Esq., and the Hon. Robert Ibbetson, Esq., assisted by Sir John Thomas Claridge, Knt., (who has not taken his seat on the Bench officially as Recorder.)

After a short charge from the Court, the Grand Jury adjourned, and next morning having concluded their labours, the foreman delivered the following presentment in writing:

My Lords,—The Grand Jury having executed the duty assigned to it by the Court, consider that, before dismissal, they have a necessary though voluntary service to perform toward the public, which is, to request your lordships' attention to a few remarks, that in their incorporated office they feel themselves bound to offer, with respect to the police of this island.

Of the numerous indictments that have been laid before this and the immediately preceding grand juries, we are concerned to state that various murders, house-breakings, private robberies, and other outrages against the public peace, (during the period between this and the sessions before the last,) have come under our notice, as house-keepers or residents form no part; and to the certain knowledge of the grand jurors, a long calendar of criminals must have successfully eluded public justice.

In turning to the police, on whose information, activity, and zeal we rely for discovery of the offenders, we find a body supported at considerable expense by government, and apparently of full numerical efficiency for every requisite purpose of the island; and we therefore view it as alarming and grievous, that, notwithstanding this public provision of safety, the community should find itself an easy prey to depredators who remain undiscovered, or who, if found, may (as it has occurred) be suffered to escape by the negligence of the police establishment.

It must be obvious to your lordships, that in a circumscribed society like that of Penang, the presentment of a public grievance of this nature is an invidious task; but the grand jury feel that they would be highly culpable, under the solemn pledge they have given at this bar, if after witnessing various instances of inactivity and mismanagement in the establishment most material to the administration of public justice and the safety of the community, they

they failed to notice an evident necessity and call for investigation and reform.

It is not the object of the grand jury, my lords, to point out in *what* there should be an alteration; they see and feel hourly a numerous establishment, to which they are directed for protection of their persons and property, prove, from some cause, totally inefficient for the purposes expected; and they respectfully submit this, their conviction, to the superior consideration of your lordships; who, they have no doubt, will adopt such measures as may ensure an end so desirable and highly important to the society at large.

For self and fellow jurors,

WM. BALHETCHET,

Foreman of the Grand Jury.

Grand Jury Room, Penang,

December 31, 1826.

The Hon. the President thanked the Grand Jury for their attendance, and for their presentment, which he intimated should be forthwith brought to the notice of government; and he doubted not measures would be speedily taken to remedy the evil complained of.

Seven prisoners (natives) were convicted capitally; but the punishment of death was commuted for transportation for life to *Bombay*!

[It is singular that Penang, which is a receptacle for convicts from the presidencies of continental India, who are transported to this settlement, should be authorized to send its own convicts to the presidency of Bombay, from which a further crime might remove a felon back again to Penang!]

The *Penang Gazette* states that the Governor, in consequence of the presentment of the grand jury, has increased the police establishment.

The *Calcutta John Bull* has the following statement respecting the police of Penang:—

An instance we have heard occurred some months ago, at Penang, illustrative in no common degree of the inefficiency of the police for the detection of crimes. A Chinaman, who had been engaged very extensively in commercial dealings, was murdered at his own door, by several persons rushing upon him, and stabbing him on the spot, until the bowels protruded; yet notwithstanding the daring publicity of the act, all the exertions of the police were unable to discover the perpetrator of this murder. Considering how small a place Penang is, and how many the difficulties of either effectual concealment or escape are, the inability of the police establishment to trace this murder, says little indeed for its efficiency. But unfortunately, at Prince of Wales Island, a practice prevails—perhaps a necessary one—of employing those as servants in and about a house, who have been banished to it, from other parts of

India, on account of their crimes; and we have actually been told, of a khidmutgar standing behind his master's chair, on whose forehead "murder" was branded. It is said accordingly, that in almost all the robberies and depredations committed, the servants of the person robbed are clearly concerned; but besides these, we are given to understand, that a number of convicts, not in the employment of individuals as servants, are allowed to be at large over night, and consequently to wander about seeking for opportunities to plunder and steal. Banishment to Penang from other parts of India is consequently so little regarded by criminals who are sent there, that we know on the best authority, than when they have again returned to Bengal, they have perpetrated new crimes, with no other view, than to be sent back to a place where they are infinitely better off as condemned criminals, than they are here as *honest men*.

DEATH.

Feb. 7. Mrs. Isabella Turner, wife of John Turner, Esq., late of Rangoon.

Singapore.

TRADE.

The *Singapore Chronicle* of March 1, contains an abstract statement of the Imports and Exports at this Settlement for 1826. The former amount to 6,663,581 Sp. drs., and the latter to 6,422,845 Sp. drs. This exhibits an increase of the imports over those of 1825, of 574,185 Sp. drs., and of the exports 585,475 Sp. drs.

The principal articles of the imports are the following: Coffee, imported, 231,110 drs.; exported, 270,903 drs. Gold dust, imported, 156,492 drs.; exported, 248,940 drs. Nankeens, imported, 293,760 drs.; exported, 21,555 drs. Europe piece goods, imported, 895,520 drs.; exported, 846,512 drs. India piece goods, imported, 895,799 drs.; exported, 400,965 drs. Opium, imported, 1,174,712 drs.; exported, 866,955 drs. Raw Silk, imported, 428,094 drs.; exported, 275,370 drs. Specie, imported, 521,567 drs.; exported, 918,316 drs. Tin, imported, 827,118 drs.; exported, 454,375 drs. Tobacco, imported, 199,465 drs.; exported, 98,068 drs.

THE PRESS.

It will be seen by the following letter and regulations that the censorship has been withdrawn from the press of this settlement.

To the Editor of the *Singapore Chronicle*.

Sir,—By desire of the Hon. the Governor in Council, I beg to forward for your guidance the enclosed rules applicable to the editor of Newspapers in India, and

and to intimate to you that the permission of Government for the publication of the *Singapore Chronicle and Commercial Advertiser* is granted to you, with the clear understanding that you strictly adhere to these regulations.

As you will now refrain from publishing any thing in your papers which will involve an infringement of these rules, it will no longer be necessary for you to submit for approval the proof sheet of each number of the *Chronicle* previous to its publication.

I am, &c.,

Singapore,
Feb. 20, 1827. JOHN PRINCE,
Resident Councillor.

[The regulations subjoined to the letter are the same as those laid down by the Marquis of Hastings for the Bengal press, on withdrawing the censorship in 1818; with the additional prohibition (under the second head) of "all controversial discussions on points of religion."]

POPULATION OF THE SETTLEMENT.

According to the *Chronicle*, the population now consists of 13,750 souls, viz.

	Males.	Females.
Europeans	69	18
Armenians	16	3
Native Christians.....	128	60
Arabs.....	18	0
Chinese.....	5,747	341
Malays.....	2,501	2,289
Bugis.....	666	576
Javanese.....	174	93
Natives of Bengal.....	209	35
Natives of the Coast of		
Coromandel.....	772	5
Caffries.....	2	3
Siamese.....	5	2
Total	10,307	3,443

DEATH.

Feb. 26. Mrs. Cole, wife of Capt. G. W. Cole, of the *Telgunnuth*, of Calcutta.

Mauritius.

THE COMMISSIONERS OF INQUIRY.

The Commissioners of Inquiry, Major Colebrooke and Mr. Blair, have at length arrived at this island, and commenced their labours. Their arrival occasioned, as may be supposed, a great sensation amongst all classes. Mr. Bigge, the senior commissioner, still remains at the Cape.

SEIZURE OF A VESSEL.

Extract of a Letter from Port Louis:— The grab *Shah Ryamgore* is seized, having coffee on board from Padang, an article which, as well as sugar, cocoa, molasses, rum, and arrack, are totally prohibited by 6th Geo. IV. cap. 70. There are also
Asiatic Journ. Vol. 24. No. 141.

other prohibitions worthy of being kept in mind. Thus by 6th Geo. IV. cap. 109. sec. 10: "No goods shall be carried from any British possessions in Asia, Africa, or America, in any foreign ships, unless they be ships of the country of which the goods are imported." Thus the French trade from Calcutta here is at last done up.

NEW BANK.

Accounts from the Mauritius state that a new Banking Company had been established there, the subscription having been filled up in a very short time after the list was opened. The issues were restricted to 500,000 dollars, and the dividend was not to exceed twelve per cent.

Netherlands India.

JAVA.

The *Batavia Journal* of the 14th March contains letters from Soeracarta to the 7th, which give intelligence that the eldest son of the rebel chief, Dipo Negoro, whose name is Dipo Koesmo, had submitted to the Netherlands Government. Negotiations had been opened with him by Mr. M'Gillairy, resident at Soeracarta, with the assistance of one of the insurgent Tommongons, who offered his services for the purpose. He appears to have required at first, that the name and the authority of his father should be secured to him. It does not seem that this was positively promised him; but on an understanding that he should be supported in the promotion of his wishes, he repaired with a number of his followers to the Benteng of Dillangoe, where he was received with the greatest respect. It was confidently expected that this defection would have much influence on Dipo Negoro, who was then at Djamoers for the purpose of collecting some adherents. Except the presence of 300 insurgents in Tegal Reudoe, against whom Major de Van der Wyk had marched with his column, Kadoe was very quiet.

At the beginning of March, the Government wanted vessels to convey goods and money to Banca and the Moluccas.

Persia.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR.

The Petersburgh papers contain the following particulars from the scene of hostilities:—Major-general Pancratieff, commanding the corps of troops stationed in Karabagh, having been informed that the old Prince of Karabagh, Mekhti Kouli Khan, desired to place himself under the protection of his Majesty the Emperor,

peror, marched on the 8th June towards the defile of Araklin with two battalions of infantry, two pieces of light artillery, and four companies of Cossacks. The arrival of our troops made a great impression on the nomades whom Mekhti Kouli Khan had brought with him, and facilitated the means of bringing the family of the Khan, which was at a considerable distance on the right bank of the Araxes. On the 30th of May Mekhti Kouli Khan went to our bivouac near Agli-Karavanserai, and declared that he was come to submit his fate to the magnanimity of his Imperial Majesty. A battalion of infantry and one cannon, and fifty Cossacks, were detached to facilitate the removal of 3,000 families, who had remained in the defile of Duraliagout, not having been able to follow the Khan into our territory, and Mekhti Kouli Khan went himself to prevent any opposition on the part of the Persians. Besides the salutary influence which it will have on the inhabitants of those districts beyond our frontiers, the removal of those families, who belong to a warlike nation, roaming between Karabagh and Nakhitchevan, and who are able to bring into the field above 4,000 excellent cavalry to carry on a partisan warfare, secures our communications with the principal corps of the army, and the great numbers of cattle which they possess increases our resources for the supply of our troops.

On the 17th June, at two o'clock in the morning, about 300 Sarbasians suddenly attacked the advanced posts of the carabineers who occupy the mountain Heracilius, but after a very brisk fire of musketry they were repulsed with loss. On the 20th June General Paskewitsch arrived at Etchmiadine, where he received the brother of Assan, Sultan of the Shadlines, who came in his name, and in the name of the whole nation, to implore the protection of his Majesty the Emperor. According to the account of the Shadlines who have escaped from Sardar-Abad, that fortress is defended by seventeen or eighteen pieces of cannon, and a garrison of 1,000 Sarbasians and 500 irregular sharp-shooters of Mazenderan. It has provisions for no more than two months, and the rations of bread of the garrison have already been diminished.

On the 22d June the troops began a general movement towards the Garnitchai, a river which runs twenty wersts beyond Erivan, on the road to Nakhitchevan.

Colonel Schepkopff, who had been detached to cut off the retreat of Hassan Khan, discovered on the 12th (24th) June an inconsiderable body of the enemy, which fled towards Sardar-Abad as soon as it was attacked by the Cossacks. It was found that Hassan Khan had reached Sardar-Abad by crossing the mountains in

the night, and that he had afterwards retired towards the Araxes. Col. Schepkopff returned to Etchmiadine.

Major-general Baron Rosen, who arrived on the 26th June with 2d brigade of Hulans, reports that he had advanced as far as Besch Abarane, but that his scouts had no where met with the enemy.

The camp of the detachments which had been placed in Karabagh, near Duschksane, has been removed to the gardens of Djibrail, situated five wersts to the north of Pekhli-Tchikar.—The troops and the convoy continue to advance; all the latter have arrived safe in the Garnitchai. On the 30th June all the troops would again set out, and then advance without stopping.

The *Gazette de France* contains an article, dated St. Petersburg, July 28th, which entirely discredits the reports of a speedy conclusion of peace between Russia and Persia, and presages rather its long duration. Blame is attached to General Yermoloff, who has suffered the war, it is said, to languish.

Central Asia.

Copy of a letter dated Orenburg, June 20:—"From the news lately received from the frontiers of China, it appears that Ai Khodja, having succeeded in collecting a considerable force, had pushed his conquests with success; and that the Chinese had been defeated in several engagements with the inhabitants of Little Bukharia; but at length the Chinese Government sent a formidable army into that country, which put the Bukharians to flight, and captured their artillery. On this occasion Ai Khodja, the chief of the insurrection, lost his life; and Koun Khodja, his brother, took refuge among the Khirghis. The four towns which had fallen into the hands of the insurgents surrendered to the conquerors, who doubled the annual tribute paid by the inhabitants. The Chinese spread a report that Ai Khodja had some Europeans among his followers. Commerce has resumed its usual activity, and the caravans from Bukharia are already on their way to the countries where the productions of that country find a market."—*German Paper*.

China.

An American paper (the *Columbian Sentinel* of July 18) has stated that some fighting had taken place on the 1st March between some Chinese junks and English and American vessels, off Canton. The Company's ships *Lady Melville* and *Dunira*

nira sailed on the 6th March, the captains of which had heard nothing of this circumstance; therefore the statement must be incorrect as far as the date goes, at least.

The following is the article alluded to; it is an extract of a letter from an officer of an American merchant vessel, dated Linton, March 20:—

“On the 1st instant there was a battle between five boats of the American and English lying in this port, and two Chinese Mandarin boats, and one of the men-of-war's launches, occasioned by a pass-boat coming down with orders from the ship *Citizen*, of New York, to proceed up to Canton. The Mandarins took the pass-boat, and were towing her towards the Chinese vessels of war, when the Americans and English manned their boats and went in pursuit. In about half an hour the foremost boat came up with them; muskets were fired and stones thrown from the Mandarin boats; but our other boats coming up, they began an attack, and succeeded in re-taking the pass-boat and orders, and proceeded to the *Citizen*. I heard, on the 2d, that two Mandarins were killed, and twenty Chinese wounded; and two of their opposers were slightly hurt. There are three or four Chinese vessels of war lying here now, and there are said to be thirty more coming down from town, distant sixty miles. We now lie with all our guns double-shotted, ready for battle. The vessels that are here I think more than a match for them. It will probably put a stop to business for some time at Wampon, where the vessels lie that are bound to Canton. There were two men slightly wounded with stones, being the only ones injured on our side in this affair.”

The American editor subjoins this remark:—“The parties in this affair certainly exercised much spirit; but the transaction appears to be a violation of neutral rights, which would not be submitted to in the Delaware or the Thames.”

Australasia.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

APPOINTMENTS.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Jan. 1, 1827.—John Mackness, Esq., to be sheriff of territory of New South Wales for ensuing year.

Jan. 3.—The Rev. Daniel Power to be Roman Catholic clergyman of this colony, in room of the Rev. J. J. Cherry.

Mr. W. Richardson and Mr. G. Busby, to be assist. surgs. on civil establishment of this colony.

Jan. 25.—Mr. D. F. Mackay to be superintendent of public works at Newcastle.

F. Allman, Esq. to be police magistrate at Newcastle.

Jonathan Warner, Esq., lieut. in 2d Royal N. S. Wales Vet. Company, to be a magistrate of territory.

LAW.

Criminal Court, February 28.—The pirates who were convicted on the 20th inst. for seizing the brig *Wellington*, were this day brought up to receive sentence. It had been alleged on behalf of the prisoners, that their original embarkation, as convicts, on board the vessel for Norfolk Island, was illegal, the proper forms not having been complied with; and that their subsequent mutiny was justifiable in order to liberate themselves from illegal detention. The Court overruled these and other objections, and sentenced the prisoners to death.

One of the pirates, named Boyd, before sentence of death was pronounced, addressed the court briefly in a very perspicuous and neat manner, and in very correct language. He described, that on being transported to Norfolk Island, he had resolved to reform a life which had been spent in wickedness; that he had been compelled to join in the piratical act, and made to officiate as sentry; and that now he was prepared to die—he expected no mercy in this life, but looked forward to it with hope in the next. Another of the men, on receiving judgment, expressed a hope to the Court that they would be allowed “a long day.” All demanded themselves with propriety and firmness.

Thirty-two of the prisoners who were on board the *Wellington* have undergone trial. Ten of that number were acquitted; the remainder will not be proceeded against, as it is either known that they did not join the principal offenders, or evidence against them is not complete.

Those who are sentenced have been given to understand, officially, that they must hope for no extension of mercy whatever. The whole are confined in the condemned cells, and kept on the chain.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The following record of a marvellous escape from the wrath of a snake will most likely be classed among the tales of fiction, though it is a record which can be fully authenticated. Two or three men, a few days ago only, were proceeding to Bathurst in charge of some cattle. At Mount York they halted for the purpose of taking refreshment and rest. One of the men, quite overcome with fatigue, threw himself on the grass and fell asleep. His companions left him for some hours. On their return they found him still asleep, and on going near to rouse him, they were struck with the sight of the tail of a snake curling and writhing at his side, as if in agony. They judged at once that the man had been stung, and from seeing him remain still, they feared he was dead. They approached him however, and awoke him. The snake remained

mained motionless except as to the tail, and on examining they discovered to their surprise, that the head of the snake was under a tuft of tall grass, upon which the man had thrown himself, and the blades of grass had so wrapped over the snake as to prevent him moving away, and he had thus got smothered or strangled. The man who had slept upon the snake, on looking at the dead reptile, and seeing the danger he had escaped, became covered with cold perspiration, and it was some time before he could recover from the effects of the fright the circumstance occasioned to him. The snake was of a red brick colour, and peculiar to Mount York, where the same kind abound. The bite is very dangerous. — *Australian*, Feb. 21.

A sporting aquatic race of great interest took place on Saturday last in the harbour. The disputants were Captain Rous, of the *Rainbow*, and Captain Piper; the latter with his gig-boat and four oars, the former with the man-of-war's boat and six oars. The stakes were a hundred guineas a-side—distance, from the cove round Shark's Island, and back to the cove again. The race was well contested, afforded much diversion, and decided against the hitherto unconquered, and supposed to be unconquerable gig. The man-of-war came in victorious, preceding one minute and ten seconds. Capt. Rous, we hear, is quite a sporting character, and full of life and spirits, and ready for the conflict of fun. — *Ibid*, March 1.

A shocking occurrence took place on board the New Zealand Company's ship the *Rosanna*, whilst lying at New Zealand. A man named M'Douall, who had been engaged by the Company to undertake the culture of flax on the island, was at work one day with another man named Gray, employed in erecting some machinery, when a dispute arose between them. M'Douall seized hold of a knife which lay in the hold where they were working, and plunged it into his companion's breast a depth of two inches. A gush of blood instantly proceeded from the wound, and the victim became insensible. A lad who happened to be in the hold where the sanguinary affair took place, cried "shame" on M'Douall for murdering Gray; the former instantly drew the knife out of the breast of his insensible victim, and pursued the boy with it in his hand. The latter fled for refuge towards a party of New Zealanders, who were seated together in the forehold of the ship (on the same deck), but M'Douall succeeded in overtaking him—knocked him down, and plunged the same knife into his back several times. The Zealanders were terrified at the scene, and hastened from the spot; but one of them,

bolder than the rest, returned to the poor lad's assistance, and succeeded in getting hold of the knife from the hand of the assailant, but not before he received a severe wound in his arm. The offender being secured, was brought on deck by orders of the captain. He was placed in heavy irons for fourteen days; he refused to take any subsistence, or any thing, except occasionally a draught of water. The first victim lay in a dangerous state for three weeks, but afterwards sufficiently recovered himself so as to walk the deck. The other man deserted the ship, rather choosing to stay at the islands than remain in the vessel. The poor lad continues to be in a bad state, having received no fewer than thirteen wounds in different parts of his body. The prisoner has undergone a hearing before the police, but owing to his extremely weak state he remains in the hospital, whither he has been ordered for the present. — *Ibid*, March 3.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

PROCEEDINGS OF A PUBLIC MEETING.

The *Tasmanian*, a newspaper of Hobart Town, contains a report of the proceedings at a public meeting of about 200 inhabitants of the colony, convened by the Sheriff, and held at the court house, March 13th, to consider of the propriety of petitioning the King for a legislative assembly and trial by jury.

Mr. W. Gellibrand proposed the following petition:—

"To the King's most excellent Majesty,

"The humble petition of the gentry, merchants, land-owners, housekeepers, and other free inhabitants of his Majesty's colony of Van Diemen's Land, in public meeting assembled, by the Sheriff of the colony,

"Most humbly sheweth,

"That your Majesty's most loyal and dutiful subjects humbly beg leave to approach your Majesty's royal person, to express their feelings of unshaken loyalty to your Majesty's Government, and attachment to your royal house; in which feelings, though so far separated from their mother country, they are not surpassed by any class of subjects in any part of your Majesty's dominions.

"That your petitioners are desirous of conveying to your Majesty their expressions of unfeigned gratitude, for the introduction into this colony of the privileges which have been conferred under the Act passed in the fourth year of your Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the better administration of justice in the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, &c.;" under which act the inhabitants of this colony have enjoyed, in some degree, greater protection in their persons

persons and property, by the creation of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and the partial introduction of trial by jury.

"That your petitioners have also to express their gratitude to your Majesty in having been graciously pleased to make the colony independent, and to create an executive and legislative council.

"That your petitioners beg most respectfully to impress upon your Majesty that your petitioners are British subjects, and that they have been accustomed to enjoy all the rights and privileges of the British constitution: and whilst your petitioners express their gratitude for the creation of the means by which these privileges have been partially enjoyed, they cannot refrain from conveying to your Majesty their most ardent desire for the perfect introduction of trial by jury, and a participation, through their own representatives, in making those laws and enactments which may be necessary for the future government of the colony, or the protection and expenditure of its revenue.

"And although your Majesty and the Parliament, in your wisdom, did not consider, when the Act was passed, to grant a legislative assembly or a trial by jury, your petitioners now cherish the hope that the time is arrived when your petitioners are not only fit to enjoy such benefits, but that your Majesty will be pleased to grant them.

"That your petitioners beg to remind your Majesty that the colony of Van Diemen's Land was not acquired by conquest, and that it is, with its sister colony of New South Wales, unlike any other of your Majesty's plantations, inasmuch as it is a British colony, entirely peopled by Britons, and governed by British law alone.

"That although the juries in the Criminal Court are composed of seven British officers, and though two magistrates, as assessors in the Civil Court, may have acted in every instance with integrity—yet your petitioners, admiring the British constitution, cannot consider themselves secure or happy under any institution which may be offered as a substitute for those, which are not only the pride and the birth-right, but the safeguard of every Briton—trial by jury and legislation by representation.

"These, the earnest wishes and desires of your humble petitioners, they submit to your gracious Majesty, in full confidence that their importance and necessity will obtain that share of your Majesty's consideration which they merit; and from the experience which the petitioners have had of your Majesty's paternal regard and solicitude for the prosperity and happiness of your people, your petitioners entertain the confident hope that your Majesty will not withhold from this your colony of Van

Diemen's Land blessings so dear and invaluable.

"And your petitioners, &c."

In supporting the petition, the speaker observed that the Act of Parliament, passed in the year 1823, for the better administration of justice in the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, would expire in the present year. It was not, therefore, thought advisable that this Act should expire, and a new Act supply its place, without some declaration of the sentiments of the colonists upon its operation, and some expression of their wishes and hopes with respect to the extension of their privileges, and their being restored to the full enjoyment of all those rights to which they are entitled as British subjects. Under the Act now in existence was established a Supreme Court of Justice, consisting of a Criminal and Civil Court; in the former, criminals are tried by a jury of seven British officers; and, in the latter, cases are decided by a verdict delivered by the Chief Justice, assisted by two magistrates, as assessors. By the operation of this Act greater security has been afforded to persons and property, and a partial introduction of trial by jury. Under this Act two councils, a legislative and executive, have been put into operation, and his Majesty has been graciously pleased to exercise the prerogative there given to him, and to declare this colony independent. But what was independence—what was liberty, but a mere shadow and a mockery, without those great and inestimable blessings—trial by jury, and legislation by representation? "These, my fellow colonists," said the speaker, "these are the objects to which I would direct your attention; these are the great bulwarks of the British constitution—these have operated to make our Mother-Country great and prosperous—these are institutions which we have long admired, under the influence of which we have often rejoiced, and the introduction of which into this, the land of our adoption, is necessary to her prosperity, her security, and future influence among the nations of the world."

Mr. Edward Lord seconded the motion, in a speech of which the following *exordium* will serve as a specimen:—

"Gentlemen: The sleep of many hundred years, since our beloved country emerged from the trammels of arbitrary sway, and rose to that lofty station which it now enjoys, may be attributed mainly to trial by jury and free representation of the people, the benefits resulting from which have buried the pride and guilt of the oppressors in oblivion, and raised the oppressed to that station which man by his Creator was destined to fill. We are all apt to conceive ourselves of less consequence and less responsibility than we really are; and to imagine that truths like these

these are of use to the statesman and the legislator, but of little importance to the private citizen. In every country, however, even the most despotic, much depends upon the will of the people; and no projects of government can hope for success, or ultimately prevail, which do not fall in with the wishes and feelings of the nation."

It was then resolved that the petition should be presented to the Lieutenant Governor by a Committee, requesting him to forward the same through the Secretary of State for the Colonies to his Majesty, and to beg his Excellency to support the prayer of the petition.

It was also resolved, that a similar address should be presented to both Houses of Parliament, by the Duke of Buckingham in the upper House, and Sir John Owen in the lower House, with a request that his Grace and Sir John would use their influence in support thereof.

The *Tasmanian* of March 22d has the following remarks upon the subject, which, although long, we give insertion to, as they afford much information; whether accurate or not we cannot, of course, pretend to tell:—

"It is with feelings of the most poignant regret that we announce to our readers, that the Address to his Majesty, praying for Trial by Jury and Legislation by Representation, has not been presented to his Excellency, for the purpose of being transmitted to the Earl Bathurst! We have endeavoured to procure a statement of the proceedings of the deputation from the 13th instant to the present time, which we have inserted in our columns of this day, and we have every reason to believe that our information is correct. We had fondly hoped that the time had arrived when there would be an union of interest and of sentiment between the governor and the governed. We had indulged the pleasing idea that the first public meeting, for the expression of sentiments of loyalty and attachment to the King and Constitution, would have received the most marked attention and condescension; and that the feelings and wishes of the people would not only have been graciously received, but even anticipated. If the statements are true, we regret that his Excellency had not one friend to advise him, or that he should be surrounded by those who know or feel so little of the respect which is due to public opinion. It is quite clear that the matter cannot rest here—the deputation have to justify their conduct to their constituents, and for which purpose another meeting must be convened by the Sheriff. One thing is certain—the deputation of the people have either received, or given, a marked insult!

"Of the various feelings which operate upon the human mind, and call its energies into action, self-interest has always

been the most powerful. The philosopher and the philanthropist may pretend to act from better motives, and to consider its votaries as objects of compassion, or reformation; but if we strictly analyze the motives and the actions of the best of men in all ages, we shall find that they have been imperceptibly influenced by this general, we might almost add, universal principle. So easily do we accommodate ourselves to circumstances, and mould our opinions by our desires, that it not unfrequently happens, we condemn in others the very actions which we are ourselves committing, until the voice of conscience says—'Thou art the man.' If this feeling of self-interest is so general, it cannot be a matter of surprise that its influence should be felt in this island; and as the subjects to which we this week invite the attention of our readers most materially affect their interests, as well as all classes of society, we shall at once enter thereon.

"His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor has held the reins of government in this colony for a space of three years, during which time some hundred thousand acres of land have been located to emigrants. Large locations have been given to some who brought little capital with them; and, in some instances, smaller locations have been given to those who brought out large capitals. His Excellency, in every case, impressed upon the emigrant the propriety of immediately settling upon his land, and bringing a considerable quantity of it into cultivation; but the terms and conditions upon which the land was to be granted were not communicated. In many, too many instances, the parties have proceeded into the interior, and in the course of twelve months expended all their property in clearing a few acres of land—building houses and barns, at an expense of perhaps 800*l.* or 1000*l.*—and, requiring some assistance to carry them over another year, have proceeded to town under the pleasing, but delusive hope, that they might be enabled to borrow some money upon the credit of their lands, and the money expended thereon; but what must be their grief and disappointment to hear that they have no title with their grant; and that the conditions which will be attached to it are such as to prevent any credit being obtained upon it;—first, because any conveyance, within five years, will be a forfeiture; but principally because the government will impose a quit-rent upon it of such a magnitude as to render it of no value, in fact not worth occupying; the effect of which is, that the money is borrowed, not upon the credit of the land alone, but also upon the credit of the settler; and both being precarious, it follows as a necessary consequence, that the lender will be paid in proportion to the risk; and the settler, who ought to borrow upon

upon the credit of this expenditure, at a moderate rate of 10 per cent., is by this injudicious operation on the part of the government, obliged to pay 20 or 30 per cent.; and, in the end, in many instances ruined. Let it not be said that we are speaking hyperbolically, or that we write to misrepresent; we will take the following example. An emigrant has an order for 2,000 acres of land. He understands in England that he is to have a grant of land. He of course expects it to be a freehold—he settles upon his land—he finds half of it unfit for any purpose, and, in the whole, not above 200 acres that he can bring into any cultivation; he expends 1,500*l.* in clearing, fencing, building, cattle, &c.—and, at last, finds out that instead of the former quit-rent of about 50*s.* he will have to pay 50*l.* per annum for ever, and be restricted from letting or in any way encumbering for five years. This quit-rent and these conditions are understood to attach to every location of land since Governor Arthur's arrival in this colony, and for which not a single grant has yet been issued.

“We are quite satisfied that there is but one opinion as to the impolicy of these regulations. They are highly injurious to all classes of society; they are a great check to improvement; and they have involved many in ruin. We believe that no person is more sensible of these matters than his Excellency, or feels more for the distress which it has occasioned. It may have given some of the saving Government officers an opportunity of improving their property, but it has been at the expense of the settlers. We have reason to know that these unfortunate measures are grounded upon positive orders from home; and that, however his Excellency may deplore the measure, he does not consider that he can exercise any discretion upon the subject, but that he is reluctantly compelled to carry the King's instructions into effect. We are wholly at a loss to conceive from what information Lord Bathurst could have issued such instructions, because the average price of land, with a nominal quit-rent, has been from five shillings to ten shillings per acre; and Lieutenant-Governor Arthur has himself sold many thousand acres of land, free from all restrictions and quit-rent of every description, for seven shillings and sixpence per acre.

“We have a few observations to offer upon the subject of sale of lands. The Lieutenant-Governor has, in some instances, sold lands free from restrictions; the parties have sold these lands to gentlemen who are desirous of extending their possessions; and after having paid for the land, and taken it upon the terms of the Government letter, they find that it is to be subject to this quit-rent of five

pounds per cent. upon the whole value. Whether the words ‘free from restrictions’ will exonerate from quit-rent, which is a great restriction, we do not determine, nor the distinction which may exist between law and honour; but it is one of the evils arising from the parties not having the grant at the time, and of the conditions not being clearly and accurately defined. For the last three years every man's property has been in jeopardy, and in some and many instances, not only in part, but the whole of his property. It is impossible to point out how energies have been paralyzed—the peace and tranquillity of families broken in and destroyed—industry given way to apathy—temperance to drunkenness—prosperity to distress—in short, it makes the settler sick at heart, and when that is the case the result is well known. We would beg most respectfully to suggest, that upon such important questions as these, and when the vital interests of the colony are at stake, a wholesome discretion ought and might be exercised; and that as such a code of instructions must have proceeded from some erroneous information, it would be wiser to suspend their operation until the pleasure of his Majesty may be known. We are sure that it would be fully apparent, from an examination of the whole body of Commissioners of Land, and Surveyors and Assistant Surveyors, that the land is not worth occupying at the quit-rent, and that the colony cannot afford to pay it. We entertain strong hopes that these measures will not be enforced; because, if his Excellency has sufficient power to exercise his discretion as to relative qualifications between his own appointee and relative, Captain Montagu, and the appointment made by the King himself of Mr. Beanton, as clerk of the council, and in the exercise of that discretion, shall refuse to induct the gentleman appointed by his Majesty; and also a further discretion as to the relative qualification between his sub-appointee, Mr. Dumaresq (the relative of General Darling), and the appointment made by the King himself of Mr. Scott, to the office of surveyor-general, and which has also shared the same fate—we say, if his Excellency can, under any circumstances, consider himself justified in thus stopping the completion of the royal commands in the appointment of his own servants, and the exercise of his own royal favour, how much more will he be not only justified, but supported and commended, in suspending the operation of instructions which will prove so injurious to the best interests of the colony; as it may affect not only the security of our persons, but also of our possessions.”

By later advices we learn the following particulars respecting the visit of the deputation to the Lieutenant-Governor.—

His

His Excellency appointed the hour of two o'clock to receive the deputation, but on proceeding for the purpose at a quarter past that hour, they were met in the yard of the Government-house, not by the aid-de-camp or the private secretary, but by an individual, understood to be connected with the household, who informed them that his Excellency was engaged, and would see them another hour from that time. The deputation considered this an insult, and retraced their steps back to where they had met, and instantly transmitted a letter from them to the Lieutenant-Governor, apprising him of the reception they had met with, and that they would not trouble his Excellency any further on the subject. The Sheriff then went, after the letter had been sent, to the Government-house, but as the Governor was still engaged, his name was merely announced. This affair has caused the utmost sensation in the colony.

A report was in circulation in the colony that Brigadier-General Gibbs, of the Guards, had been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 14. At Sydney, the lady of John Nicholson, Esq., R.N., master attendant of H. M.'s dock-yard, of a son.

15. At Montpellier, Mrs. W. Panton, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 9. At Sydney, Lieut. Brown, 57th regt., to Miss Lockyer, daughter of Maj. Lockyer, same regt.

11. At Campbell Town, Mr. T. Meehan, eldest son of the late Deputy Surveyor General of N. S. Wales, to Miss Tree, daughter of Mr. R. Tree, late master-builder in H. M.'s dock-yard.

30. At Sydney, Mr. J. Harpur, Wesleyan missionary to the Aborigines of this country, to Miss Styles, of Sydney.

31. At Sydney, Mr. J. Von M. Weiss, Wesleyan missionary to Tongataboo, to Miss E. W. Hewlitt.

Lately. At Parramatta, Mr. W. Shelly, to Susan, third daughter of the late Mr. R. Hassall.

Cape of Good Hope.

APPOINTMENTS.

Jan. 31. Mr. J. F. Ziervogel to be district clerk and assistant registrar and guardian of slaves of Somerset, v. Mr. A. G. Von Bratt resigned.

Feb. 27. P. J. Poggenpoel, Esq., to be reinstated in offices of secretary and vendue master in district of Worcester; Mr. J. G. Aspelting to resume his former situation of district clerk and assistant guardian and registrar of slaves; and Mr. C. F. Scholtz to return to his late office of Landdrosts' clerk, from 1st March.

March 2. R. A. Zeederberg and J. H. Groenewald, Esquires, to be members of Burgher Senate, v. F. Collinson and J. Nisbet, Esqrs., resigned.

April 27. D. O'Flinn, Esq., M.D., to be district surgeon of Stellenbosch, in room of Dr. Shand resigned.

May 3. Mr. R. Townroe to be director of Government Slave Lodge, in room of Mr. W. Baulcomb deceased.

9. Rev. J. M. Klock Van Staveren to be minister

to Lutheran congregation at Cape Town, in room of Rev. F. R. Kaupman, who returns to Europe.

23. Mr. M. Ruysch to be second land surveyor to district of Uitenhage.

SALT LAKE NEAR ALGOA BAY.

The Cape Government Gazette of 9th March contains a report of the Supreme Medical Commission, dated 25th February, on a sample of salt taken from a lake in the vicinity of Algoa Bay. The report states that the committee could not obtain an exact knowledge of the constituent parts of the salt, but they found that it did not differ essentially in chemical composition from the common culinary salt, consisting chiefly of muriate of soda, having in combination a small proportion of earthy salts, and an admixture of insoluble impurities. They had not discovered any ingredient in it which, in their opinion, would disqualify it for the preservation of meat under proper management. They conclude with hoping that this salt will prove little inferior to other baysalts in purity, strength, and other points on which the preserving quality depends.

FATAL DUEL.

Extract of a letter from an officer of the Royal Marines, dated Cape Town, 30th May, 1827:—

"Cape Town has been quite in an uproar about a duel which took place between an officer of the 55th regiment of foot and a Mr. Noble, who came out passengers on board the *Harvey* transport, from Plymouth. They met at Steenback, and Noble's ball took effect directly in his opponent's forehead, who instantly expired. The unfortunate deceased (Lieut. Bonnes) was only 21, and had just purchased his lieutenantancy. It appears they had some dispute during the passage, which was increased by intermeddling. A Court of Inquiry has been held on Mr. Noble, and has acquitted him."

CHRISTENINGS.

Jan. 6. A daughter of J. Atherstone, Esq., baptized Caroline.

8. A daughter of Lieut. Ross, H. M.'s Cape Corps (Inf.), baptized Leonora Alford.

10. A daughter of J. D. Watt, Esq., deputy assist. com. gen. to the forces, baptized Madeline Meriel.

14. A son of F. Brew, Esq., qu. mast. in H. M.'s 49th foot, baptized George Evans.

21. A daughter of the late Mr. C. Caldecott, surgeon, baptized Mary Anne Jane Amelia.

Feb. 4. A daughter of O. J. Truter, Esq., baptized Hester Catharina.

6. A son of Staff Assist. surg. J. Wyer, baptized John Francis.

18. A son of W. Proctor, Esq., baptized James Mildmay Falkner.

March 11. A daughter of Capt. G. Kilgour, baptized Caroline Margaret.

13. A daughter of Wm. Mackintosh, qu. mast. in H. M.'s 55th regt, baptized Francis Christian.

16. A daughter of H. Home, Esq., baptized Helen.

18. A son of F. Collison, Esq., baptized Frank William.

18. A daughter of the Rev. A. Faure, B.B., baptised Gaertruyda Isabella.
 21. A son of Lieut. Col. Fitz Roy, deputy adj. general, baptised Arthur George.
April 1. A daughter of W. C. Van Ryneveld, Esq., baptised Maria Martha Wilhelmina.
 2. A son of J. Blake, Esq., commandant, Saldanha Bay, baptised Arthur.
 5. A daughter of J. Fitzgerald, M.D., assist. surg. H.M.'s 49th regt., baptised Anna Maria.
 13. A son of Capt. Alex. Gordon, Hon. E. I. Company's service, baptised Richard James.
 22. A daughter of A. J. M. Kuys, Esq., baptised Gaertruyda Helena.
May 7. A son of Lieut. R. N. Boyes, H.M.'s 25th regt., baptised James Fichat.
 13. A son of R. W. Poe, Esq., Hon. Company's solicitor, baptised Emanuel Thomas.
 16. A daughter of Maj. R. Bartley, H.M.'s 49th regt., baptised Caroline Christiana.
 — A son of R. J. Jones, Esq., baptised Thomas Edwin.
 — A son of F. Maude, Esq., baptised William.
 — A son of Assist. surg. D. Armstrong, H.M.'s 29th regt., baptised John Gillespie Dunlevie;— also, a daughter of the same, baptised Mary Ann.

MARRIAGES.

Jan. 6. Lieut. Edw. Armstrong, 34th Madras N.I., to Miss A. B. Truter.
 16. A. E. Van Wyk, Esq., to Miss M. A. Forster.
Feb. 8. C. Maynard, Esq., to Georgina, fifth daughter of Alex. Biggar, Esq., of Woodlands, Albany.
March 11. P. A. Wilboorn, Esq., to Miss Anna Rosina Devon.
 30. Ens. W. O. Atkinson (half-pay unattached) to Miss M. J. Van den Berg.
 31. G. W. C. Lydiard, Esq., Lieut. of H.M.'s ship *Owen Glendower*, to Mary Elizabeth Harrison, widow, second daughter of the Rev. Geo. Sturt.
April 4. P. A. Poupard, Esq., to Mrs. P. J. Imit, widow of the late J. D. Alders, Esq.
 14. Lieut. Edm. Sparrow, of the 1st Bombay L.C., to Valetta Henrietta, daughter of Lieut. Col. Carey, of H.M.'s Royal Navy.

22. H. F. W. Maynier, Esq., to Mrs. A. M. Van Ryneveld, widow of the late Geo. Napper, Esq.
 28. John Bagshaw, Esq., to Miss Mary Ann Henley.

DEATHS.

Jan. 8. Miss Isabella Daniels, aged 20.
 20. Mrs. W. J. Smalberger, widow of the late Mr. W. Lategan, aged 65.
Feb. 2. Marianne, daughter of Mr. G. W. Prince, aged fifteen months.
 5. Mrs. C. M. Boscamp, widow of the late Mr. B. Leurling, aged 63.
 16. Mr. Andrew Dixon, aged 32.
 19. Mrs. S. M. D'Ally, widow of the late Mr. J. Mostert, aged 47.
 27. Mrs. M. W. C. de Waal, widow of the late J. P. Watney, Esq., aged 40.
 28. E. Bergh, Esq., aged 68.
March 1. Capt. T. Musson, late of the schooner *Couch*, aged 37.
 3. Maria T. W. Elcanora, Baroness Von Bouchenroder Von Buschenrad, wife of J. B. C. Knebel, Esq., aged 40.
 11. The Rev. Mr. J. C. Berrangé, aged 57.
 14. Capt. Thos. Howard, aged 35.
 28. Wilhelmina Charlotte Christine, daughter of W. A. J. Lieschling, Esq., aged ten months.
 29. Capt. Wm. Kind, of the brig *Patience*, aged 55.
April 4. Mr. M. Smuts, sen., aged 75.
 8. Mr. T. Morris, aged 30.
 14. G. Van Reenen, Esq., aged 63.
 — Carol Albrecht, son of C. A. Haupt, Esq., aged 19.
 28. Mary Harriet, daughter of H. Christian, Esq., H.C.'s civil service, aged one year.
May 2. Lieut. S. P. Bonnes, of H.M.'s 35th regt., aged 21.
 6. Emma Caroline, daughter of E. Christian, Esq., aged nearly two years.
 13. Chas. Van Heilandt, Esq., aged 64.
 15. Mrs. Anne Harington, wife of R. W. Poe, Esq., aged 28.

Postscript to Asiatic Intelligence.

We are without any news from the late theatre of war in Ava of a much later date than contained in the supplement to our last number. The *Calcutta Gov. Gaz.* of February 26, contains the following statement regarding the existing hostilities between the Burmese and the Taliens.

"The report of Rangoon being in possession of the Taliens, to which we adverted last week, proves to be premature; but the whole of lower Pegu, from the Saluen to the Bassein River, on one side, and from the sea to the branching off of the Irawaddy at Yangainchainya, on the other, is in a state of insurrection or anarchy. Maongsat, the Myothuggi of Syriam, has assumed the title of king, and mounted the "white umbrella," the standard of royalty. This individual is about fifty years of age, and a man of courage and firmness, but not remarkable for his talent. The late king married a cousin of Maongsat's, and by her, who was a great favourite, had a son, the present Prince of Mekh'ha-ra. Through the influence of this connexion, Maongsat was, at one time, raised to the station of Governor of Martaban, a place however which he soon lost in the vicissitudes of Burmese court-intrigue. He afterwards became Myothuggi, or chief, of the district of Syriam, his native place. In this situation he made, of all the Burman chiefs, the most vigorous and persevering resistance against our arms. Hostility to the Burmans has always marked his character, and brought him into frequent troubles. On one occasion, not above four years ago, he was actually led out for execution, and pardoned on the spot. During our occupation of the country, and after he had once fairly joined us, he continued faithful and attached, without receiving any other encouragement than that of being retained in the administration of his district. Now in power, he professes to imitate the English. The practice of sitting and crouching before the great is denounced by him as unmanly. His troops and retainers, of all kinds, are directed to come into his own presence, or that of the other chiefs, in an erect attitude, and salute like English sepoys. He declares that, after the example of the English, he will dismiss all his prisoners after disarming them, and that he will neither kill nor maim any of his enemies

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PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

INDIGO.

(Ordered to be printed, 28th May 1827.)

An Account of the Quantity of Indigo imported into Great Britain from the East-Indies in each of the following Years.

Years.	Quantity.	Years.	Quantity.	Years.	Quantity.
	lbs.		lbs.		lbs.
1785	154,291	1799	2,529,377	1813 ...	Accounts destroyed.
1786	253,345	1800	2,674,317	1814	6,803,064
1787	363,046	1801	2,123,637	1815	5,543,852
1788	622,691	1802	2,264,199	1816	7,247,227
1789	371,469	1803	2,632,110	1817	5,001,280
1790	531,619	1804	2,765,871	1818	5,497,768
1791	465,198	1805	4,666,292	1819	3,689,050
1792	581,827	1806	2,612,181	1820	4,924,222
1793	890,766	1807	5,326,032	1821	3,943,592
1794	1,403,650	1808	5,314,869	1822	2,549,284
1795	2,862,684	1809	2,179,083	1823	6,557,296
1796	3,897,120	1810	5,243,613	1824	4,595,707
1797	1,754,293	1811	4,453,932	1825	6,233,335
1798	3,862,188	1812	4,461,793	1826	7,699,439

An Account of the Quantity of East-India Indigo on which Duty has been paid for Home Consumption in Great Britain in the last Thirteen Years.

Years.	Quantity.	Years.	Quantity.
	lbs.		lbs.
1814.....	3,140,863	1821.....	1,842,105
1815.....	2,645,135	1822.....	1,696,511
1816.....	1,845,453	1823.....	1,976,859
1817.....	2,308,173	1824.....	2,087,221
1818.....	2,104,784	1825.....	2,100,478
1819.....	1,911,104	1826.....	1,766,470
1820.....	2,135,663		

HOME INTELLIGENCE.

LAW.

PRIVY COUNCIL, July 28.

Pravankissen Biswas and others, against Kimomindo Biswas and others.—This was an appeal from Bengal. The Appellants were the sons of Juggomohun Biswas, a Hindoo, deceased; the Respondents were the brother of the deceased and a grandson. The Appellants claimed the property left by the deceased, which was of immense amount, by virtue of two wills executed by the deceased in their favour. The Respondents contended that these instruments were forgeries, as well as other documents produced to support the case of the Appellants; and they claimed a partition of the family property agreeably to the Hindoo law.

The arguments of counsel occupied three days: Sir Charles Wetherell and

Mr. Serjeant Spankie (with whom was Mr. R. Grant) were heard on behalf of the Appellants; and Mr. Adam and Mr. Jemmett for the Respondents.

Their Lordships, after an hour's consultation in private, gave judgment (by the Master of the Rolls) in favour of the Respondents, and directed that costs, to the largest amount ever known to have been given by their Lordships, should be allowed in this case.*

MISCELLANEOUS.

EMIGRATION TO VAN DIEMAN'S LAND.

A provincial paper states that a vessel has sailed from Hull for Van Diemen's Land.

* We cannot guarantee the accuracy of this report, which is compiled from several of the daily papers.

Land with sixty mechanics, shepherds, and agricultural labourers, to cultivate 16,000 acres of land belonging to an English company. They are to be carried out free to the settlement, and are engaged for three years to receive board, and £40 per annum; after which, if they are not re-engaged, they must find their home at their own expense. Those engaged receive £20 in advance to purchase clothes, and were paid 3s. 6d. a day from the period they were engaged till the vessel sailed from Hull.

THE CAMELOPARD.

This curious animal (the only one ever brought to this country) a present from the Pacha of Egypt to His Majesty, has arrived in England, and was immediately conveyed to Windsor, attended by three Arabs. It seems to enjoy its situation in Windsor Park; it is fed principally on mixed grains, ground wheat, barley, and beans, and its drink is milk night and morning. This change in its natural habits originates in the manner in which it has been brought up. Having fallen into the hands of some Arabs, who had no other food to offer it but the grain on which they fed their camels, and the milk which they procured from the females, it accustomed itself to it, and has not now a wish for any other. It however eats willingly fruit and the tops of branches, especially of the genus *mimosa*. This animal is about two years and a half old.

WILL OF THE LATE COL. LYONS.

The London papers contain the following statement:—

"We present our readers the following as the substance of the singularly characteristic will of the late Daniel Lyons, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel in the East-India Company's Service:—After numerous legacies of 10*l.* each, the testator says, that having learned from Mr. Brougham's letter to Sir S. Romilly, the existence and nature of Monsieur Fellenberg's establishment of education at Berne (Switzerland), he directs that 250 acres of his Irish estate, in meadow, wheat, barley, hemp, potatoes, &c., shall be devoted to the support, in Ireland, of an establishment resembling that of M. Fellenberg's, except the branch for educating young gentlemen. The agricultural institution is to consist of ten or fifteen boys; that for poor children of the lowest order, not to exceed forty boys of the town of Longhrea and its vicinity; and that M. Fellenberg's plan may be strictly adhered to, a copy of his description of it is to be always kept in the school. Great kindness is enjoined to the children, and the boys are to be instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and to be educated out of the testator's estate, together with

the produce of their labours. The schoolmaster is to receive 20*l.* and the usher 12*l.* per annum; the master to have a school-house with an acre of ground, and the grazing of two cows free of rent. Both are to be of the established church; evening and morning prayers are to be read, the thirty-nine articles are to be explained the first Monday in every month; and the boys are to learn the ten commandments on the second; and are to be supplied with prayer-books and homilies of the Church of England. In the event of an impossibility to fill the school with boys of the Protestant Church, as by law established, one-third may be Roman Catholics. At fourteen the boys are to be delivered to their parents, or, if orphans, they are to be apprenticed to farmers. So minute are the testator's directions, that he specifies the number of the brogues, noggins, trenchers, small and large tooth-combs, &c., with which the boys are to be supplied. The manufactory of agricultural instruments incidental to M. Fellenberg's plan, is to be on a large or small scale, according to the taste of the testator's successors; and there is to be upon the estate a manufactory of coarse cloth, called ratteen, and another of coarse linen, to supply the boys of the seminary. 'Whenever leisure moments occur, some portion of their time should be devoted to teaching the boys to knit yarn stockings for their own use; they should also learn to mend their clothes; a few old women should be constantly employed in spinning thread and wool for the above manufactory; wool and hemp to be annually supplied by my heirs, sufficient for both manufactories.' Four acres are to be enclosed with a stone wall of solid masonry, eight feet high, for a garden, and a careful and intelligent gardener is to be employed by his heirs to manage the ground for the seminary. The heir of the estate, within one month of his obtaining possession, shall appoint not less than six executors to manage it in the event of a minority; their names to be certified before magistrates in the neighbourhood. Two of such magistrates are empowered to eject any possessor by process of law, in the event of the testator's school not being kept up according to the testator's directions—the next heir then to take possession. Two magistrates of the neighbourhood are requested to inspect minutely the aforesaid estate and institutions, manufactory, &c. twice a year, as their travelling expenses shall be defrayed by the possessor of the estate, who, it is to be hoped, on such occasions will recollect Irish hospitality—without locking the doors, as formerly, to force the guests to drink. The effects in England are sworn under 14,000*l.* Our readers may recollect, that some years ago there was an interesting article upon M. Fellenberg's

berg's establishment in the *Edinburgh Review*."

It appears, however, that the colonel did not leave sufficient landed property to carry his project into execution.

VOYAGE ROUND THE WORLD.

The Russian corvette *Krotky*, commanded by Baron Wrangel, has just returned from a voyage round the world, upon which she has been employed about two years. The expedition has brought with it many objects of natural history, as also many plants hitherto unknown in Europe. Baron Wrangel is the same distinguished officer who, accompanied by Dr. Kyber, explored the hitherto unknown north-eastern coast of Asia to Behring's Straits, from the River Kolyma, upon which they were employed about four years; the account of which is expected to be now publishing at St. Petersburg.*

SEPARATION BETWEEN THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY AND THE SERAMPORE MISSIONARIES.

In the Report delivered at the Annual Meeting on the 19th June last, the Committee give the following statement in reference to the late arrangements between the Society and the Serampore Missionaries. As our journal has been the vehicle of some discussion respecting these missionaries, we insert the report in full from the *Missionary Register*.

"A notice has already been published, stating that thenceforward the Society at home and the Missionaries at Serampore would constitute two distinct and independent bodies. In a measure so much at variance with the hopes and inclinations of the Committee, they did not hastily concur; nor have they failed to use all such means to avoid it, as in their deliberate judgment appeared consistent with their duty to those for whom they acted. In the new and difficult circumstances in which they have been placed, they have earnestly desired to maintain a conscience void of offence both toward God and man; and, in appealing, as they now do, to the body by whom they were appointed, they feel it incumbent upon them to state the circumstances which have led to the result alluded to.

"It is well known, that, soon after Dr. Carey was joined, in the year 1799, by the Brethren Marshman and Ward, a way was opened in Providence for such an employment of their respective talents, as, without materially interfering with Missionary labours, proved a source of considerable and increasing emolument. To obviate the danger of a secularizing spirit, they mutually stipulated that no individual among them should appropriate any part

of the proceeds of his labours to his own private use; but that all should constitute a common fund, consecrated, after supplying their own necessary demands, to the service of God and the propagation of the Gospel around them.

"In the course of years, the Missionary premises at Serampore were purchased, and other property acquired at that station. What degree of information was possessed by the conductors of the Mission at home, respecting the property thus accumulated, is uncertain: but there appears reason to believe, that it was purchased with the joint funds of the Missionaries at Serampore and the Society; and it was fully understood, on the most convincing evidence, that it belonged clearly and unequivocally to the Society, and was held by the resident Missionaries in trust for the Society of which they formed a part.

"On the lamented decease of Mr. Fuller, which occurred in May 1815, the affairs of the Mission devolved on those who were but very partially acquainted with the details of its history or the circumstances in which it stood. It became, therefore, obviously needful to make inquiries on these subjects. Though it was understood, generally, that the Society had considerable possessions in India, not an individual knew the tenure by which they were held, or the manner in which they were secured. Such information it was felt desirable to obtain; and a letter which arrived soon afterwards from Serampore, brought the subject distinctly and forcibly before the Committee.

"This letter, dated March 1816, was addressed by the late Mr. Ward to Mr. Burls. Though bearing the signature of Mr. Ward only, it was written avowedly in the names of the three Serampore brethren. It stated that these brethren, 'aware of the uncertainty of life, and at the same time of the great importance and necessity of providing for the future carrying on of the Mission station at Serampore,' and securing 'the immense property' in land and moveables there, had agreed on certain 'principles of the last importance to the preservation of the cause.' Among these principles, the proprietorship of the Society was expressly recognised; but, as the plan had not been finally digested, it was to be again revised, and sent to the Society 'for their opinion, and, if approved, for their ratification.'

"This important document was considered at a Meeting of the Committee held at Birmingham in October 1816; and, about two months afterward, by the Sub-Committee then assembled at Oxford. At the last of these Meetings, the Committee felt disposed to adopt the suggestion of a professional gentleman from Calcutta, at that time in London, who had recommended that the Society's property

* See *Anti-Sl. Jour.* vol. xvii. p. 653 and vol. xix. p. 25.

perty in India should be vested in trustees, some resident there and others in England: the names of eight gentlemen were then mentioned, who might be requested to act as trustees, subject to the approval of the General Committee; who were to be summoned finally to adjust the points, whenever the revised plan should arrive from Serampore.

"Till June 1818, a period of a year-and-a-half, no further steps were taken by the Committee, because this expected document had not reached them from Serampore: but, at that time, a letter of great length was received from the Missionaries there, the contents of which filled the Committee with surprise and concern.

"It appeared that the proposal to invest the premises at Serampore in the hands of trustees appointed by the Society, (a proposal, which, though suggested, had never been actually adopted) was regarded as unjustifiable in itself, and as indicating a distrustful and unfriendly spirit. It was affirmed that the property in question, though devoted to the cause of God, had never been given to the Society; and, to guard themselves against any inconvenience which might follow a claim of this nature on the part of the Society, they executed a legal instrument, formally excluding from any 'title to the property or administration of the premises' all persons belonging to the Baptist Missionary Society, unless elected as trustees by the Serampore Missionaries themselves.

"To this unexpected communication a reply was sent, dated June 26, 1818. In it the brethren were implored to consider the nature and consequences of the step which they had taken. They were assured, that, so far from regarding them with suspicion or distrust, the Committee felt such confidence in their wisdom and faithfulness, as to be willing, as far as they were personally concerned, to resign every thing to their sole management; but that, in the measures then adopted, they could not acquiesce without surrendering the interests confided to their care.

"In a more numerous meeting of the Committee, held at Birmingham in the following August, the subject was again considered; and several resolutions were passed, recording the conviction of the Committee, that they were responsible to the public for the due application of the Serampore premises; and earnestly recommending the Missionaries there, so to secure them as to meet the approbation of the Christian public in Britain.

"When our late friend Mr. Ward arrived in England, in May 1819, it soon appeared that he felt as much anxiety as ever respecting the settlement of the property at Serampore, and was wholly dissatisfied with the arrangements then existing. Aflatus to bring the matter to a

final termination, the Committee conversed repeatedly with Mr. Ward; and embodied their own views in a series of resolutions, dated Dec. 31, 1819. These re-asserted the sentiments previously adopted at Birmingham, in more full and explicit language; and, having been communicated to Mr. Ward, he, without pledging his brethren at Serampore to similar views, declared his own concurrence in them.

"Soon after these resolutions reached Serampore, the brethren then at that station answered them by others, dated July 14, 1820, expressing their regret that it should have been supposed that they entertained any wish to alienate the property from the Society, and their willingness to make, if it were practicable, such alterations in the deeds as might render them unexceptionable. Had measures been taken to effect this object, the discussion would, of course, have been brought to an immediate and agreeable termination. Subsequent letters, however, did not fulfil such an expectation; but, on the contrary, indicated unabated dissatisfaction with the proceedings of the Committee. With a view to dissipate this impression, and set the whole question at rest, a full explanatory letter was drawn up in April 1821; in which the assurance was repeated, that the Committee had been actuated by no design toward their Serampore brethren but that of protecting their reputation, while, at the same time, they had been constrained to fulfil their own duty to the public. It was added, that, having done all that appeared practicable, they must close the correspondence by again declaring that the mode in which the property was still settled was not satisfactory.

"In August 1822, Mr. John Marshman arrived; and, soon after, held repeated conferences with the Committee on this point. A memorandum was afterward prepared, stipulating, on the part of the Serampore Missionaries, that they should yet frame their plan 'for securing the Establishment there to the great objects for which it was instituted, so as to avail themselves of the aid, co-operation, and interference of the Society at home, if necessary'—an arrangement in which the Committee were induced to acquiesce, rather than prolong discussions which promised no beneficial result.

"Since the date of that memorandum, no information has been received on the subject: nor has it been formally resumed, though the Committee have subsequently deemed it right to intimate that their opinion on the case has undergone no alteration.

"While these discussions were in progress, another subject was brought forward, which eventually affected, in an equal degree, the connexion between the Society and the Missionaries at Serampore. This

This was the establishment of the Serampore College, in 1818.

"Upon this undertaking the advice of the Committee was not solicited, nor was it ever considered as connected with the Society; but the expense thus incurred absorbed the funds, which had been previously devoted by the Serampore brethren to Missionary efforts; and it became necessary for them to solicit British aid even for the maintenance of the College itself. Application being made to the Committee for this object, although they could not consider the funds entrusted to them as generally available for such a purpose, yet, in order to meet the wishes of their brethren as far as they could with propriety, they engaged to relieve them from the expenses attending the preparation of pious natives for the Christian ministry.

"Six months afterward, Mr. John Marshman applied for pecuniary aid toward the Missionary stations also; the support of which the Serampore brethren had formerly taken upon themselves, and which they now regarded as their own, exclusive of the Society, but which, for the reason already stated, they were no longer able to maintain. Upon this occasion it was resolved, 'That, on being furnished with a statement of the Stations and Missionaries, for whom support was needed, the Committee would take such part of the same on themselves as their resources would allow.' Without waiting, however, for a formal reply, a grant of 1,000*l.* was voted; and two other donations, each of an equal amount, have since been made.

"In addition to this, at the request of their Serampore brethren, Mr. Robinson, still supported by the Society, was permitted to occupy the station at the Lall Bazar Chapel in Calcutta: Mr. Williamson, also, another European labourer, was, on a similar application, taken on its funds. By these two arrangements, an expenditure of nearly 600*l.* per annum was transferred from the Serampore Missionaries to the Society.

"On the arrival of Dr. Marshman, the subject of pecuniary contribution was again urged on the Committee, with a view to render the arrangement as permanent as the nature of the Society would admit. It was felt objectionable, indeed, that the stations had been, and all their contemplated Missionary efforts were to remain, identified with the College; but, waiving this, it was agreed, at the proposal of Dr. Marshman, that one-tenth of the general receipts of the Society should be remitted to Serampore—it being stipulated at the same time, on the part of the Committee, that regular information should be given of the mode in which the money so voted was expended.

"In less than three months, Dr. Marshman informed the Committee that the

expenses of the Serampore stations had materially increased; and requested that a special meeting might be convened, to consider of allowing to Serampore a sixth-part of the Society's income, intimating, also that even a larger sum might hereafter be solicited.

"A few days before the Committee met to consider this question, which was delayed, to suit Dr. Marshman's convenience, till the 15th March last, a paper, entitled a Confidential Statement, was forwarded by him to every member of the Committee. It contained a new proposal. On the ground that 2,400*l.* per annum was indispensably necessary for the Missionary efforts either made or contemplated at Serampore, Dr. Marshman relinquished his intention of asking for any definite proportion of the Society's funds; and wished to learn what sum the Committee would engage to remit annually, that he might supply any deficiency by bringing before the public a distinct claim for the remainder.

"On the day already mentioned, a very numerous attendance of the Committee took place, when Dr. Marshman laid this document before them. It was followed by the introduction of a letter, which had just arrived from Dr. Carey and Mr. J. Marshman, stating, that, in consequence of the inadequacy of their resources, they had placed upon the funds of the Society four of the stations, for which aid had been required, the cost of which would be nearly 600*l.* per annum.

"As this measure precisely coincided with the arrangement proposed so long before by the Committee, and as it appeared likely to restore unity in our Missionary operations, the Committee readily agreed to it; and proposed to Dr. Marshman, to extend the same principle, so as to include the remaining stations, on account of which expense was incurred by their Serampore brethren. To provide for their management, it was suggested that the whole of the Missionary brethren in Bengal might form a Corresponding Committee, under the presidency of Dr. Carey; and, as the latter part of this arrangement appeared objectionable to Dr. Marshman, it was subsequently proposed to leave the superintendence of the stations to Drs. Carey and Marshman during their lives, reserving to the Society only the nomination of their successors.

The consideration of this proposal, and of the general subject, occupied several days of most anxious deliberation; and repeated efforts were made to prevent the painful issue to which the discussions were apparently tending. But, as every proposal made by the Committee was declined by Dr. Marshman, upon grounds which

which he declared to be imperative, they were constrained to yield to a separation, which their present communications with Dr. Marshman convinced them had actually been made, and which it was manifestly determined to maintain.

"In admitting the conviction that it had become expedient for the Society and the Serampore brethren henceforth to act altogether separately, the Committee were fully aware of the unfavourable impression which might be produced, and deeply sympathized in the painful feelings which the event might occasion: but they also felt that they could not consistently continue to vote the funds with which they were entrusted, to a body asserting entire independence—who would still appeal to the public by a separate agency—whose demands were continually rising—and for the support of stations which were to be governed by the irresponsible council of a College.

"While the Committee are conscious of having fulfilled the trust reposed in them with the utmost tenderness toward their brethren at Serampore, they entertain no doubt that their constituents will feel the force of the reasons under which they have acted. May it please God to overrule this event, however undesirable in itself, to the furtherance of the Gospel of His Son!"

FRENCH NAVAL HERO.

A French provincial paper, *Le Breton*, contains the memoirs of a Captain Robert Surcouf, a native of St. Maloes, who died in July last, whose naval feats, especially in the East-Indies (as reported in the paper), throw those of our own heroes completely into the shade.

Capt. Surcouf, who, it is stated, was descended from the celebrated Duguay Trouin, was born in 1773, and went to sea at the age of thirteen; after some voyages in Europe, he became a captain, and sailed for India, where he remained till 1809. He commanded successively the privateers *La Clarisse*, *La Confiance*, and *Le Revenant*: each of his cruizes, says his biographer, was marked by some splendid action. One of his actions is thus related:

In 1796, he commanded the ship *Emilie*, in which he sailed (with slaves?) from the Seychelles to the Isle of France. Chased by the English as far as north of the Equator, he found himself in a very awkward condition, not having provisions enough on board his ship to carry him back to the French colony. He therefore conceived the bold project of proceeding to the Bay of Bengal, in order to "get provisions from on board some English ships." The *Emilie* was of 200 tons burthen, with only two guns on board,

and twenty-six men. In this weak vessel he attacked and took an English armed schooner (name not mentioned), with a numerous crew. After putting nineteen of his own crew on board the schooner, he took the command of her and proceeded to cruise upon the coast of Bengal. He there fell in with the *Triton*, a vessel belonging to the English East-India Company, armed with twenty-six 12-pounders, and manned with one hundred and fifty men. Expecting that the vessel would take him for "a pilot of the Ganges," he manœuvred accordingly. The *Triton* manifested no suspicion, whereupon he suddenly darted with his brave followers upon the *Triton's* deck, overturned all who opposed them, and killed the English captain by a pistol shot. The English fled the deck in confusion, and endeavoured to hide themselves. The *Triton* surrendered, and "thus," continues the memoir, "by a determination full of audacity, and by the precision of his attack, Surcouf, with nineteen men, took a vessel of twenty-six guns and a crew of 150!"

How far this narrative may be true, we cannot say, but the next, fortunately, contains sufficient data to enable us to pronounce it a gross piece of gasconade. The French author's statement is as follows:—

"In 1799 he took the command, at the Isle of France, of the privateer *La Confiance*, of Bourdeaux, with a crew of 120 men, and armed with twenty guns. In one of his cruizes, he fell in with an English East-Indiaman, and dared to form the project of getting possession of her. This vessel was named the *Kent*, carrying forty guns, and it had a crew of 437 men, of whom 100 were troops, besides the crew of another East-Indiaman taken on board in consequence of their vessel being burnt.* Never was there beheld in naval combats, such an unequal conflict: even the height of the vessel compared with the feeble privateer augmented the chances against Surcouf. But the difficulty and the danger, far from discouraging this intrepid sailor, acted as an additional spur to his brilliant valour. After electrifying his crew with a few words full of hope and ardour, he manœuvred and ran on board the enemy. In this position he received a broadside when close to (*à bout portant*); but he had expected this, and made his men lay flat upon the deck. After the first fire, they all rose, and from the yards and tops, threw bombs and grenades into the fore-castle of the vessel. This sudden and unfore-

* The vessel burnt was the *Queen*, the survivors of whose crew and passengers the *Kent* saved. Ed.

unforeseen attack caused a havock -- much the greater by reason of the English deck being crowded with about 400 armed men. In an instant, death and terror made them abandon a part of the vessel near the mizen mast. Surcouf, who observed every thing, seized the decisive moment, beat to arms, and forty brave men prepared to board, with pistols in their hands, and daggers held between their teeth. As soon as they got on the deck, they rushed upon the affrighted crowd, who retreated to the steerage, and endeavoured to defend themselves there. Surcouf thereupon ordered a second division to board, which he headed himself: the captain of the enemy's vessel was killed, and all were swept away in a moment. The rest of the crew flying below, were attacked *de novo*. Surcouf caused a gun to be loaded with grape, which he pointed towards the place where the crowd was assembled, threatening to exterminate them. The English, deeming resistance fruitless, surrendered, and Surcouf hastened to put a stop to the slaughter. This exploit, hitherto unparalleled, resounded throughout India; the name of Robert Surcouf became the terror of English commerce in these latitudes, and the British government actually sent thither several frigates to protect their ships from this redoubtable captain, who ceased not to harass them.*

This account contains internal evidence of being exaggerated: but we have still better proofs. The official statement of the capture of the *Kent*, "published by order of Government," is now before us, from whence we extract the following particulars:*

The action took place off the Sand Heads, on the 7th October 1801; the *Confiance* is described as a French privateer of 26 guns and 250 men, more than double the number stated. She was mistaken by the *Kent* for a pilot schooner. It was soon afterwards discovered that she was an enemy, and all hands prepared for an action. "Upon her approach to the *Kent*, as she shewed no colours, a shot was fired at her from the larboard side, which was followed up, as she passed upon the opposite tack, by a broadside, and a constant fire kept up whilst she was within reach of the guns. The privateer, for it was soon ascertained to be one, soon afterwards tacked, came up to the larboard side, and commenced the engagement within about musket shot, but without doing much injury, although she continued in this position some time: she then got a-head, and passing round the bow of the *Kent*, renewed the engagement on the other side, nearly at the same distance, and for the same length of time,

* See the account in full, in the *Annual Register*, vol. xlii., p. 36.

but with as little effect as before. She afterwards made sail a-head, as if with an intention of relinquishing the attack, and making off, which she could easily have done, having greatly the superiority in sailing. When she had got about the distance of half a mile a-head of the *Kent*, she was, however, observed to haul her mainsail up, and wear round immediately towards her; and in about ten or fifteen minutes afterwards, or as soon as her guns would bear, she for the first time hoisted the national colours (Surcouf afterwards declared that he had forgot them before) and fired a broadside and volley of musketry from every part of the ship, which was immediately returned by the *Kent*, and continued while her guns would bear: the privateer then wearing round her stern, ranged close up alongside, and received a full discharge from the *Kent*'s starboard guns: at this moment she fired a whole broadside, and threw a number of hand grenades from her tops into the *Kent*, some of which penetrated the upper deck, and burst on the gun deck, at the same time a fire of musketry was kept from her tops, which killed and wounded a number of passengers and recruits that were on the quarter deck and poop. When the ships were completely locked with each other, Capt. Surcouf entered at the head of about one hundred and fifty men, completely armed for boarding, having each a sabre and a brace of pistols. The contest upon deck was now desperate, and lasted for about twenty minutes, but the enemy having greatly the superiority, both in number and arms, were victorious, and a dreadful carnage ensued, they shewing no quarter to any one who came in their way, whether with or without arms; and such was their savage cruelty, that they even stabbed some of the sick in bed."

Such is our official account: which of the two is to be depended upon we leave others to determine.

We should not perhaps have thought it necessary to notice this article had it not appeared in a Paris work of some reputation, where it is introduced with an eulogium very misplaced. The concluding part of the official statement will serve as an answer to that part of the article, in which it is said that the English, if they would do justice to the military talents of their conqueror, ought to be anxious to proclaim his *generosity* in the affair of the *Kent*.

TRADE WITH THE EAST.

The *London Gazette* of July 31, contains an Order of Council, that the trade and commerce of his Majesty's settlements and territories at the Cape of Good Hope, the Island of Mauritius, Island of Ceylon, New South Wales, and Van

Diemen's Land, with the respective dependencies thereof, shall, from the arrival of the present Order within any of those settlements, be regulated in the manner following. "All such laws, rules, orders, and regulations as were in force within the settlements, territories, and islands aforesaid, or any of them, for the regulation of the trade and commerce thereof, upon the 1st day of July, in the year 1825, shall, until further order be made by his Majesty in this behalf, revive and continue, and be of full force, virtue, and effect within the several settlements, territories, and islands aforesaid respectively; and if any goods shall be imported or exported in any manner contrary hereto, such goods, together with the ship importing or exporting the same, shall incur and become liable to such forfeiture as in the said Act of Parliament is mentioned in that behalf."

LAW APPOINTMENT.

John Sampson, Esq., of the home circuit, is appointed Solicitor General of New South Wales.

NETHERLANDS TRADE WITH INDIA.

A highly interesting report has been published in the Brussels paper, August 21, on the commerce, navigation, and import and export duties of Java and Madura, during the year 1825, presented to his Excellency the Commissioner General for the East-India possessions, by J. Kruisenior, Director of the Revenue and Domains at Batavia. It appears from this report, that in 1825 the importations into Java and Madura amounted to the value of 14,317,190 florins, from the following countries, viz.

The Netherlands	2,539,741
England	1,930,438
France	174,854
Hamburg	136,682
Sweden	12,770
Madeira	100,000
America	2,427,825
Cape of Good Hope	35,175
Isle of France	78,206
Persian Gulf	50,034
Coast of Malabar	44,290
Ceylon	30,753
Coast of Coromandel	2,560
Bengal	591,113
Siam	28,342
Cochin China	467,153
China	88,142
Manilla	90,085
Japan	875,405
New Holland	35,495
Eastern Archipelago	4,310,741

THE NEW GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA.

The *Undaunted* frigate, Capt. Clifford,

C.B. is ordered to be fitted out to convey Lord William Bentinck to India. The 29th August was the day appointed by the Directors of the East India Company to give the customary splendid entertainment to Lord William Bentinck, the newly-appointed Governor of India, previous to his Lordship's departure from this country to the seat of his Indian Government. In consequence, however, of the death of Mr. Canning, the original intention has been abandoned, and the intended entertainment postponed. It is as yet uncertain whether the dinner will be given on this occasion, as it is thought Lord William Bentinck's departure now approaching will be too near the time of Mr. Canning's death to allow one so nearly connected with the late Premier to partake of such a festivity.

COMMERCE OF RUSSIA.

The *Commercial Journal of St. Petersburg* gives a concise view of the commerce and navigation of all the sea-ports of the Russian empire, during the first half of the present year. According to this statement, the number of ships that had arrived in all the sea-ports of the empire, from the opening of the navigation to the 1st of this month, was 2,957, of which 1,882 were in ballast. The number of ships that had sailed was 1,971, of which only twenty-five in ballast. Foreign goods imported and already cleared at the Custom-house, to the value of 83,957,320 rubles. Russian goods exported 107,427,640 rubles. Coin, and gold and silver in bars, imported to the value of 5,894,788 rubles; ditto exported, only 2,255,334 rubles. Among the principal articles of Russian produce exported, were—Flax, 1,046,121 poods; Iron, 487,143 ditto; Tallow, 1,370,991 ditto; Potashes, 188,383 ditto; Raw and dressed hides, 101,610 ditto; Corn, value 17,951,186 rubles; Timber, 1,283,640 ditto. At Riga, the imports in the month of May were to the value of 1,674,731 rubles; the value of Russian produce exported, 14,801,729 rubles. The exports from Archangel, in the same month, 1,110,321 rubles.

LIVERPOOL COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL.

A numerous and respectable meeting was lately held at the chapel of the Blue Coat Hospital, Liverpool, for the purpose of establishing a Liverpool branch of the Society for propagating the Gospel in foreign parts. The Lord Bishop of the diocese in the chair, assisted by the Mayor and Bailiffs of the Corporation.

His Lordship opened the meeting by stating the object for which it had been called. The Society for Propagating the Gospel

Gospel in Foreign Parts had existed in this kingdom for more than a century, and its very name imported sufficient to awaken the interest and command the attention of every Christian country. It imported the extension of the sacred Scriptures through countries in which they were unknown, and the diffusion of the light of the gospel through remote regions of darkness. It was a sacred and a pleasing duty to extend to others the spiritual blessings which we enjoyed ourselves, and it was the object of this society to fulfil that duty. Such having been its object, it became him (the Lord Bishop), to state to the meeting what was its present condition. After having existed for upwards of a century, during which time its operations had been conducted in strict conformity with the apostolical principles of the established church, the society now came forward a needy, but not an ignoble or unworthy, suppliant for support, to enable it to enter into more enlarged and zealous operations. Why was it that after the lapse of so many years, it should be in a state of comparative indigence? Was it from the want of inclination in its conductors? Was it from the slackness of its operations? He could answer, most assuredly not; but in point of fact the society had not thought it necessary—he would not say to intrude itself, but—to press on the community at large for assistance. The society had year by year laid before the public a statement of its operations and its wants, but it was only a simple statement and such as was not calculated to ensure sufficient support; it was to this circumstance, rather than to any want of zeal, might partly be attributed the present state of its funds. Whatever the cause might have been, the society, whose operations were of infinite importance, whose means, if more largely extended, would be still more productive, connected as it is with the interests of the established church, was now languishing with an income of less than 6000*l.* a-year. But with respect to its objects, perhaps the public at large were in some degree ignorant; and they need only to be known to ensure serious and candid attention, and the support of a Christian public. Its object was so well explained in the charter granted by William III. in 1701, that he would read it to the meeting. [His Lordship here read the words of the charter, in which it stated that the society should be established for the propagation of the gospel in foreign parts, which was in consequence of the want of religious instruction in many of our foreign plantations.] Within a few years after its formation, the society had erected or caused to be erected no less than 250 churches. The society now supported 168 missionaries and 113 schools. Much, however, remained yet to be done; there were vast tracts in the

North American colonies in want of ritual aid. On a recent visitation, Bishops of Nova Scotia and Quebec found great reason to make a most pressing application to the society—a requisition that it was unfortunately impossible to comply with, owing to the want of sufficient means. His Lordship therefore put it to the meeting as Christians, whether the society should be suffered to languish in indigence. In this department of the society's labours, it had been accustomed to receive a certain portion of aid from the Government, which had not withheld its support to such a work; but that aid was not sufficient to supply its wants, for within the last three years the expenditure had exceeded the income by upwards of 20,000*l.* His Lordship then asked the meeting whether things could be allowed to go on in this way? If support were not obtained the society must become bankrupt, and not only this but other societies, which looked for a certain degree of support from this very ancient and benevolent society. What should he say with regard to the great door which was open in the eastern hemisphere? What should he say to the claims which 100,000,000 of Hindoos had on this country? Had any effort been made at all commensurate with the claims to reform the heathen? Surely every fresh conquest of our arms—every fresh extension of our commerce—imposed a duty on us to spread the gospel amongst the newly acquired territory. It was not for the single purpose of raising this country in the scale of nations, that Providence had blessed our arms in so remarkable a manner. We, as Christians, ought to cause the extension of religious instruction on the earth, and we were lamentably unworthy of the name we bore, if we did not show a truly evangelical interest, and permit the society to extend its operations in the east. If its means decrease, so also must its exertions; not that Government was insensible to the subject, for it had established an episcopal church in India, and Christianity will appear there with all its advantages. Owing to the multiplicity of the languages, they could not, perhaps, look for a very extended circulation of the gospel in those parts until they were able to employ missionaries from among the natives. With this view, Bishop Middleton founded Bishop's College, to which not only this society but many others contributed. That establishment, however, was now languishing for want of means. The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel would not permit it to languish while it had disposable funds, but that could only be effected by the public standing forward to its assistance.

Several resolutions were then proposed with a view to the formation of a district committee; and the Lord Bishop consented to accept the office of president.

In proposing the resolutions, several speakers took occasion to refer to the state of religion in the East.

The Rev. Edward Hull observed that, with respect to our possessions in the East, he conceived that wherever we establish a civil dominion, we ought to make known the precepts of Christianity; whether it should be done by government or by private individuals he could not pretend to say, but he thought at least the East-India Company ought to contribute towards so desirable an object. The necessity of sending out missionaries to the East was fully shown by the state of degradation in which the hundred millions of inhabitants were offering up their prayers to demons, and the wretched widow compelled to sacrifice herself on the funeral pile. Such a state would continue, unless his society afforded the means of sending out missionaries to spread the gospel among them.

The Rev. R. P. Buddicom thought it was the bounden duty of government to contribute to such a society as this, as well as individuals. In the early stages of the society its operations were confined to North America, because our possessions in India were then scarcely known; but now they had grown to 100,000,000 persons, most of whom were in a state of darkness and degradation. The Bishop's College at Calcutta at present contained only ten students, and it was the earnest wish of the late excellent Bishop Heber to extend the number to thirty or forty. It was with this view that the society had expended part of its funds, to an extent that must make its operations unavailable, or at least to paralyze them in a great degree, unless support be rendered it. There were there two ordained ministers—men knowing the eastern dialects, and acquainted with the modes of action,—who must prove of great advantage to the objects the society had in view. He (Mr. Buddicom) thought that very little credit was due to this country, as a Protestant land, for being deaf to the call of our foreign fellow-subjects. If we looked at a society established in Rome, we should see great wealth and magnificence, which ought to make this country blush for the poor support which this society received. Was the faith of the Church of Rome a purer faith than that of England? He hoped still to see this society endowed with the means of prosecuting its benevolent object.

THE MARQUESS OF HASTINGS.

It is rumoured, and we believe the report is not without foundation, that the Court of Directors intend to submit to a Court of Proprietors of East-India stock, a resolution for granting to the present Marquess of Hastings a sum of considera-

ble amount (20,000*l.*) as a testimony of regard towards the late Marquess. The grant must not only be confirmed by a Court of Proprietors, but sanctioned by the Board of Control.

SYSTEM OF MUTUAL INSTRUCTION.

M. Dupin, in a recent work on the productive and commercial power of France, finds himself compelled to defend the system of mutual instruction, against an objection urged against it in France, that it exclusively favours *liberalism*. He appeals to experience: "the system of mutual instruction," he says, "prosperes in Hindostan, that is, in a country which has never ceased to obey a Brahminical theocracy, even when the religion of the people was not that of their government, whether Musulman or Christian. Mutual instruction prospers in England, where the Anglican church employs it as a means of teaching the people to repel the seductions of discordant sects; it prospers in Scotland, where the Presbyterians use it without risking Presbyterianism; it prospers in Ireland, without diminishing there in the least the ascendancy of the Catholic clergy. This system of instruction exists amongst the Arabs, without inspiring the imams with any alarm: they never entertained the thought that to teach people to read the Koran was an infallible method to hinder the children of Mahomet from believing in the Koran. Mutual instruction is taught amongst the Tartars who people the banks of the Volga and the Don, and the Cossacks have not shewn the least symptom of insubordination towards the Autocrat of all the Russias, even whilst conspiracies were hatching amongst men whom certainly mutual instruction had never trained either to revolt or obedience. Lastly, in the only European state where all political power centres entirely in the hands of the monarch—in Denmark—mutual instruction has made wonderful progress, without the people ceasing to be tranquil as they became enlightened, because they do not cease to be happy in acquiring intellectual means of augmenting their happiness."

PROMOTIONS AND CHANGES IN THE BRITISH ARMY

(SERVING IN THE EAST.)

16th L. Dr. Corn. B. N. Everard to be Lieut. by purch., v. Lowe prom. (2 Aug.)

1st Foot. Lieut. H. J. Warde, from 25th F., to be capt. by purch., v. Taylor. who rets. (9 Aug.)

3d Foot. J. Johnston to be ens. by purch., v. Kennedy app. to 11th F. (15 Aug.)

6th Foot. W. Knight to be ens. by purch., v. Malcolm prom. In 3d F. (12 July 27); Ens. W. Greene to be lieut. by purch., v. Nash prom.; L. Brady to be ens., v. Greene (both 7 Aug.)

14th Foot. Lieut. A. Grierson, from 87th F., to be lieut., v. Moir app. to 40th F. (2 Aug.); C. Campbell to be ens. by purch., v. Rose app. to 79d F. (9 Aug.)

30th Foot. Capt. C. Connor, from h.p., to be capt., v. Stuart dec. (9 Aug.)

31st Foot. Paym. J. H. Matthews, from 14th F., to be paym., v. Monk dec. (2 Aug.)

36th Foot. Ena. J. L. Innes to be adj., v. Meyrick, who resigns adjty. only (26 July).

41st Foot. Lieut. H. J. Ellis to be capt. by purch., v. Carr who rets.; Lieut. C. Burlington, from h.p. Royal Afr. Corps., to be Lieut., v. Ellis (both 19 July); Lieut. E. G. Glasgow, from h.p. 18th L. Dr., to be Lieut., v. F. Dickson, who exch.; Lieut. F. Dickson, from h.p. 18th L. Dr., to be paym., v. Raye dec. (both 26 July); Lieut. Col. Sir Edm. K. Williams, from h.p., to be Lieut. col., v. Smeit, app. to 37th F. (9 Aug.)

47th Foot. Lieut. H. Wainwright to be capt., v. Hill dec. (3 Jan.); Ens. D. Richmond, from 11th F., to be Lieut. by purch., v. Smith prom. in 12th F. (15 Aug.)

48th Foot. Lieut. E. King, from h.p. 30th F., to be Lieut., v. O'Brien app. to Royal Staff Corps (19 July).

54th Foot. J. B. Chalk to be ens. by purch., v. Daintry prom. in 41st F. (12 July).

59th Foot. Ens. I. Blackburne, from 58th F., to be Lieut. by purch., v. Fuller, whose prom., by purch., has been cancelled (19 July).

88th Foot. Ens. C. Knox, from 72d F., to be Lieut. by purch., v. Grover prom. (9 Aug.)

Ceylon Regt. 2d-Lieut. A. Grant to be 1st-Lieut., v. Franchel prom. (19 July); 2d-Lieut. J. Deakins to be 1st-Lieut., v. Rogers prom. (20 July); F. A. Morris to be 2d-Lieut. by purch., v. Deakins prom. (26 July); Maj. S. Birchan, from h.p. 1st R. Vet. Bat., to be maj., v. Brev. Lieut. Col. J. Fraser, who exch. (16 Aug.); Lieut. J. Brahan to be capt., v. Bayley dec. (11 Feb.); Capt. W. Penny, from h.p. to be capt., v. Malcolm dec. (2d Aug.); 2d-Lieut. G. P. Pickard to be 1st-Lieut., v. Brahan (11 Feb.); Ens. F. Bland, from h.p., to be 2d-Lieut., v. Pickard (2 Aug.); 2d-Lieut. T. W. Rogers to be adj., v. Mainwaring prom. (1 May 26).

Staff. Col. Sir Jeremiah Dickson, K.C.B., to be qu. mast. gen. to King's troops serving in India, v. maj. gen. Sir S. Whittingham, app. to staff in Bengal (12 July).

Brevet. The undermentioned cadets of the Hon. E. I. Company's service to have temporary rank as Ensigns during period of their being placed at Chatham, for field instructions in art of sapping and mining:—I. Gilberie (19th June); T. Smythe; R. Henderson; J. Glafurd; J. W. Robertson; J. J. F. Cruickshank; J. W. Fraser; G. Casement; J. R. Oldfield; J. Anderson; R. S. Master; J. Gilmore (all 1 Aug.)

The exchange between Capt. Hill, of 47th F., and Capt. Cowell, of 6th F., has been cancelled.

Lieut. E. King, recently restored to full pay in 48th F., has been placed in his original situation in that corps.

INDIA SHIPPING.

Arrivals.

July 29. H.M.'s ship *Warspite*, from N.S. Wales and Rio Janeiro; at Portsmouth,—also, *Magnet*, Watkins, from Cape of Good Hope 3th May; off Dover.—30. *Peru*, Graham, from Cape of Good Hope 18th May; at Cowes.—31. *Victory*, Farquharson, from Bengal 23d Feb., Madras 16th March, and Cape 20th May; off Portsmouth,—also, *Jawa*, Hosmer, from the Mauritius (for Antwerp); off the Start,—also, *Columbia*, Kirkwood, from Bengal 9th March; at Liverpool.—Aug. 2. *Patience*, Matthews, from Cape of Good Hope; at Gravesend,—also, *Symmetry*, Smith, from Bengal 9th Feb.; off Portsmouth.—3. *William*, Thompson, from Batavia 19th March (for Antwerp); at Cowes.—4. *City of Edinburgh*, Milne, from Bengal and Cape of Good Hope; at Gravesend.—7. *Madras*, Beach, from Bengal 13th Feb., Madras 10th March, and Cape 7th June; off Portsmouth.—8. *Walsingham*, Bourke, from Cape of Good Hope 1st June; at Liverpool.—12. *Adrian*, Brown, from Batavia 6th April (for Antwerp); and *Krotkey*, Russian sloop of war, from a voyage round the world; both at Portsmouth,—also, *Alexander*,

Rabe, from Batavia (for Copenhagen); off Dover—also, *Catherine*, Kincald, from Bombay 16th March; at Greenock.—13. *Asia*, Stead, from China 13th Jan., and Quebec 16th July; off Plymouth.—14. *Crawford*, Langdon, from V.D. Land 24th March; and *Hercules*, Vaughan, from Singapore 21st March (for Antwerp); all at Deal.—14. *Houqua*, Dumeresque, from China 15th March, and Boston 25th July (for Hamburg); at Cowes.—22. *Elizabeth*, Kains, from Cape of Good Hope 6th June; off Plymouth.

Departures.

July 22. *Volusia*, Mitchell, for V.D. Land; from Greenock.—27. *Gipsy*, Quirk, for Bombay; from Liverpool.—30. *Lady Flora*, Payrer, for Bengal; from Portsmouth.—31. *North Briton*, Morrison, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales; from Greenock.—Aug. 1. *Ganges*, Jefferson, for Bengal, and *Sunbury*, Pattison, for the Mauritius; both from Liverpool,—also, *Asia*, Edman, for V.D. Land (with convicts); from Deal.—5. *Palmyra*, Lamb, for Bengal; *York*, Wilkinson, for Bengal; *Robarts*, Corbyn, for Bengal; *Hope*, Hill, for Cape of Good Hope and Madras; and *Seoastria*, Bouchier, for Cape of Good Hope and Bombay; all from Deal,—also, *Margaret*, MacCormack, for Cape of Good Hope; from Portsmouth.—7. *George Home*, Steele, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales; from Deal.—8. *Tamarian*, Miller, for Bombay; from Greenock.—11. *Dawson*, Dawson, for the Mauritius; from Deal.—13. *Courier*, Cramond, for N.S. Wales; from Deal.—15. *Calcutta*, Stroyan, for Bengal; from Liverpool.—16. *Anna Robertson*, Irvine, for Bengal; from Deal,—also, *Greenock*, Miller, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales; from Leith.—17. *Asia*, Ager, for V.D. Land and N.S. Wales (with convicts) from Portsmouth,—also, *Jonas*, Buck, for ditto; *Woodark*, Leary, for N.S. Wales; and *Offley*, Stavers, for Otaheite; all from Deal.—18. *Norval*, Conbro, for the Mauritius; from Deal,—also, *Hellona*, Hutchinson, for Batavia, Singapore, and Penang; from Liverpool.—19. *Florentia*, Billelt, for N.S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.—21. *Milo*, Winlow, for China; from Portsmouth.—22. *Royal Charlotte*, Dudman, for Madras and Penang; *Samuel Brown*, Reid, for the Mauritius; *Ellen*, Camper, for Cape of Good Hope and the Mauritius; and *Suannah*, Clappison, for ditto; all from Deal.—23. *Orient*, White, for Bengal; from Deal.—24. H.M.'s sloop *L'Esper*, Greville, for the Mauritius (with £70,000 new silver coinage); from Portsmouth.—25. *Zenobia*, Douglas, for Bengal; from Portsmouth.—26. *Louisa*, Smith, for N.S. Wales (with convicts); from Deal.

PASSENGERS FROM INDIA.

Per Dunvegan Castle, from the Mauritius; Col. and Mrs. Robertson and three children; Major and Mrs. Gully; Mr. Mainwaring, H.M.'s 47th regt.; Mrs. Mainwaring; 27 passengers and servants.

Per Victory, from Bengal: Mrs. C. Farquharson; Capt. Anstruther, Bengal Cav.; Capt. Armstrong, H.M.'s 16th Lancers; Masters Primey, Armstrong, and Robertson; 3 Masters Hicks; 34 invalids, &c.—From Madras: Hon. A. H. Cole, Madras C.S.; R. H. Clive, Esq., ditto; Maj. Gore, H.M.'s 89th Foot; Capt. Ross, Madras engineers.—From the Cape: Mrs. E. Sparrow; Mrs. Bagshaw; Mrs. Koufman; Mr. Sparrow, Bombay Cav.; Mr. Bagshaw; Rev. Mr. Koufman; Capt. Mostyn, Bengal Inf.

Per Norfolk, from Bombay: Mrs. Barnard; Mrs. Prother; Mrs. Pottinger and one child; Mrs. Jenkins and five children; Thos. Barnard, Esq.; Lieut. E. R. Prother, of artill.; Lieut. E. Neville, 2d N.I.; Asst. Surg. J. Atkinson, Queen's Royals; Lieut. J. King, ditto; Mr. Fell; Mr. and Mrs. Malone; 5 servants; 34 invalids; 6 women.—(Master and Miss Barnard died at sea).

Per Columbia, from Bengal: J. W. Templer, Esq., C.S.; Mrs. Templer; W. R. Jennings, Esq., C.S.; G. Udney, Esq.; Capt. Henderson, H.M.'s 11th L. Dr.; Mrs. Henderson; Capt. M'Dermott, H.M.'s 14th regt.; W. L. Andrews, Esq.; Mr. Crawford; Miss Henderson; Master Henderson; two Misses Spicers; Miss Ruthertford; Masters Wallace and Cairns; 7 servants.

Per Hibberts, from Bombay: Mrs. Richmond; Mrs. Theaker; Mrs. Addie; Mrs. Burk; Mr. Corrells; Col. Dyson; Major Nealey; Capt. Hunter; Capt. Wainwright; Lieut. Campbell; Lieut. Richardson;

Richardson; Miss Richardson; Masters Renny, Daley, and Capon.

Per Madras, from Bengal: Mrs. Beach and two children; Mrs. G. Ballard, and one child; Mrs. M. Lamb and one child; Mrs. Faithful and one child; Mrs. Watson; Mrs. Baker and one child; Mrs. Carter; Mrs. Mack; Miss Fletcher; Col. Huthwaite, H.C.'s service; Capt. Faithful, ditto; Capt. Watson, ditto; Capt. Cooper, H.M.'s 11th L.Dr.; J. Carter, Esq., H.C.'s service; J. Thomson, ditto; A. Wardrop, Esq., medical estab.; Miss Louisa White; Miss Hamilton; Masters White, Ross, and Hamilton; 6 native servants; 3 European ditto.—From Madras: Capt. Cramer, H.M. 30th regt.; Lieut. Tallen, H.M.'s 41st regt.; Lieut. O'Brien, Royal Staff Corps; 50 invalids; 3 soldiers' wives; 3 children of ditto; one European servant.—From St. Helena; Miss Noble.

Per William, from Batavia: Alex. Morgan, Esq.; Mrs. Morgan; Mr. Ingle; Miss Fittle.

Per Hugh Crawford, from V. D. Land: Capt. Bunster; Mrs. Kerr and one child; Mr. P. Roberts, deputy assist. com. gen., and one servant; Dr. M'Feron, R.N.; Mr. R. Lewis, of Coal River; Mr. W. G. Smith; Mr. and Mrs. G. Owen; Mr. G. F. Russell; Mr. and Mrs. Darley; Mrs. G. F. C. Roberts and 3 children; Mr. Garrett; Mr. G. Slack; Mr. Lockhead.

PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Per Palmira, for Bengal: Miss H. Maling; two Misses Kerr; Mr. R. Davidson, writer, for Madras; Mr. Brown, ditto; Mr. McOmish; Mr. J. Atkinson, civil service; Mrs. Atkinson; Miss Balthie; Mr. Irvine.

Per York, for Bengal: Mr. Harding, merchant; Mr. Harding, medical service, for Madras; Mr. A. H. Durie, cadet; Mr. Whalley, cavalry cadet; Mr. Blackburn; Miss Garden; Mrs. Matthews; Capt. and Mrs. Mahou.

Per Woodlark, for N. S. Wales: Mr. and Mrs. Hall, and two children; Mr. and Mrs. Ward, and eight children; Dr. Carmichael.

Per Orient, for Bengal: Mr. and Mrs. Ewing, and one child; Mr. and Mrs. Anderson; Capt. Hawes; Miss Macdonald; Messrs. Timine, Ford, Hunter, Hewitt, and Erskine.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

July 18. At Bagatelle, Devonshire, the lady of Capt. A. S. H. Aplin, 49th regt., of a daughter.

Aug. 3. In Montagu Square, the lady of Thos. Perry, Esq., of a daughter.

12. In Weymouth Street, Portland Place, the lady of H. S. Montagu, Esq., late of the Bengal army, of a daughter.

16. At Sion Hill, Bath, the lady of Lieut. Col. Stevens, late of the 20th Foot, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

July 19. At Aberdeen, A. Anderson, Esq., of Tirhoot, in the East-Indies, to Eleonora Sophia, eldest daughter of Jas. Gibbon, Esq., of Golden Square.

25. At Drinnin House, Colonel Macpherson, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Alexandrina, eldest daughter of the late J. Maclean, Esq., Berrary.

26. At Springhill, Berwickshire, Capt. B. Broughton, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Beatrice, youngest daughter of the late Wm. Hunter, Esq., of Glenormiston.

27. At St. Pancras New Church, Wm. Swinton, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of the late T. C. Stevens, Esq., of Stamford Hill, Middlesex.

Aug. 1. At Lillingstone Lovell, Oxfordshire, Jas. Reid, Esq., M.D., of Charlotte Street, Bloomsbury Square, to Maria Augusta, only daughter of the late Lieut. Col. H. Lloyd, of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

2. Wm. Dowler, Esq., late of Bombay, to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of W. Horsey, Esq., of Chamomile Street, Bishopsgate.

13. At Edinburgh, Colonel Wm. Turner, of the

1st Bombay L.C., to Eliza, eldest daughter of F. Brodie, Esq., W.S.

15. At Newington, Edinburgh, H. A. Dyer, Esq., M.D., Newcastle, to Harriet, daughter of Jas. Johnson, Esq., late of the Bengal medical establishment.

16. At Christ Church, Marylebone, J. R. Todd, Esq., of John Street, Adelphi, to Eliza Henrietta, daughter of Duncan Campbell, Esq., of Gloucester Place, and of Ross, in Argyleshire.

20. At St. Mary's, Marylebone, the Rev. R. L. Benson, M.A., Rector of Easthope, in Shropshire, to Amelia St. George Browne, only child of John Dyer, Esq., of the Hon. E. I. Company's service.

29. At St. James's Church, E. L. Bulwer, Esq., third son of the late General Bulwer, of Heydon Hall, Norfolk, to Rosina Doyle, only surviving daughter of the late F. M. Wheeler, Esq., of Lizard Connel, county of Limerick, and niece to Sir John Doyle, Bart., K.C.B.

DEATHS.

March 15. On board the *Wellington*, on the passage to England, Mrs. Campbell, wife of Lieut. Col. Campbell, H.M.'s 46th regt.

April 20. At sea, on board the *Norfolk*, on the passage from Bombay, Lieut. C. G. Rand, 8th regt. N.I.

Aug. 2. At Pentonville, Esther, widow of the late H. Parry, Esq., of Leadenhall Street, in her 62d year.

5. Catherine, widow of the late H. Burnley, of Brunswick Square, and mother-in-law of Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., in her 74th year.

— At Brompton, Capt. R. H. Kempe, of the Bengal Horse Artillery, aged 32.

6. At Chiswick, the Right Hon. George Caning, one of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, First Lord Commissioner of His Majesty's Treasury, &c. &c., aged 57.

18. Robert Orme, Esq., of Torrington Square, late solicitor to the Hon. E. I. Company, and clerk of the crown at Madras, in his 61st year.

24. At Cheltenham, Elizabeth Boden, daughter of the late Colonel J. Boden, of the Bombay establishment, aged 19.

Latly. David Hardie, Esq., late of the Hon. E. I. Company's service, aged 75.

— At Worthing, on his return from India, J. S. Mostyn, Esq., of Segroyt, Denbigh, North Wales.

GOODS DECLARED FOR SALE AT THE EAST-INDIA HOUSE.

For Sale 3 September—Prompt 30 November.

Twa.—Bohea, 1,100,000 lb.; Congou, Campol, Pekoe, and Souchong, 5,200,000 lb.; Twankay and Hyson-Skiu, 1,150,000 lb.; Hyson, 250,000 lb.—Total, including Private-Trade, 7,700,000 lb.

For Sale 11 September—Prompt 7 December.

Company's.—Bengal, Coast, and Surat Piece Goods.

Private-Trade.—Nankeens—Blue Nankeens—White and Blue Sallampores—Cotton Romals—Baniannos—Black Silk Handkerchiefs—China Silk Piece Goods—Wrought Silks—Crapes—Crape Shawls and Scarfs—Satins—Shawls—Shawl Pieces—Floss and Sewing Silk.

For Sale 3 October—Prompt 11 January 1828.

Company's and Licensed.—Indigo.

For Sale 22 October—Prompt 8 February.

Company's.—Bengal Raw Silk.

The Court of Directors have given notice, with reference to their notice of the 23d May last, that in pursuance of an order received from the Hon. Board of Customs, they have prepared lists of all goods, &c. which have remained warehoused longer than allowed by law; and, as they are about to fix an early day for the sale thereof, the Court have seen it right to call the attention of the holders of warrants, or other parties interested therein, to the necessity of taking immediate measures for the clearance of the goods, as they cannot delay to act upon the instructions they have received.

PRICE CURRENT, Aug. 28.

EAST-INDIA PRODUCE.				Indigo, Blue and Violet			
	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.
Coffee, Java .....cwt.	2	3	0	—	0	13	0
— Cheribon	2	3	0	—	0	12	0
— Sumatra	1	18	0	—	0	11	9
— Bourbon	—	—	—	—	0	10	0
— Mocha	3	10	0	—	0	9	3
Cotton, Surat.....lb	0	0	4	—	0	10	0
— Madras	0	0	4	—	0	9	3
— Bengal	0	0	4	—	0	10	0
— Bourbon	0	0	7	—	0	9	3
Drugs & for Dyeing.				—	0	10	0
Alces, Epsica.....cwt.	15	0	0	—	0	9	0
Amlessed, Star.....	5	10	0	—	0	7	6
Borax, Refined.....	2	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Unrefined, or Tincal	2	0	0	—	0	7	6
Camphire	8	15	0	—	0	7	6
Cardamoms, Malabar..lb	—	—	—	—	0	7	6
— Ceylon	0	1	6	—	0	7	6
Cassia Buds .....cwt.	6	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Ligne	5	0	0	—	0	7	6
Castor Oil	0	0	6	—	0	7	6
Dragon's Blood.....	5	0	0	—	0	7	6
Gum Ammoniac, lump.	3	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Arabic	1	5	0	—	0	7	6
— Assafetida	3	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Benjamin	2	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Animi	3	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Gambogium	26	10	0	—	0	7	6
— Myrrh	3	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Olibanum	2	10	0	—	0	7	6
Kino	11	0	0	—	0	7	6
Lac Lake.....lb	0	1	0	—	0	7	6
— Dye.....cwt.	3	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Shell	2	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Stick	0	10	0	—	0	7	6
Musk, China.....oz.	0	0	5	—	0	7	6
Oil, Cassia	0	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Cinnamon.....	0	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Cloves.....lb	0	1	3	—	0	7	6
— Mace.....	0	2	9	—	0	7	6
— Nutmegs.....	0	2	9	—	0	7	6
Opium	0	1	6	—	0	7	6
Rhubarb	3	5	0	—	0	7	6
Sal Ammoniac.....cwt.	0	0	9	—	0	7	6
Senna	1	10	0	—	0	7	6
— Bengal	1	5	0	—	0	7	6
— China	1	16	0	—	0	7	6
Galls, in Sorts	4	0	0	—	0	7	6
— Blue	3	10	0	—	0	7	6
Extra fine Violet....	0	11	9	—	0	11	9
— Violet	0	10	0	—	0	11	9
— Violet and Copper ..	0	9	3	—	0	11	9
— Fine Copper	0	10	0	—	0	11	9
— Copper	0	9	0	—	0	11	9
— Consuming sorts	0	7	6	—	0	11	9
— Oude Middling	0	5	0	—	0	11	9
— Low and had Oude ..	0	3	0	—	0	11	9
— Madras	0	8	0	—	0	11	9
— Do. mid. ord. and had	0	4	6	—	0	11	9
Ribe, Bengal White....cwt.	0	13	0	—	0	11	9
— Patna	0	18	0	—	0	11	9
Safflower	1	0	0	—	0	11	9
Sago	0	15	0	—	0	11	9
Saltpetre	1	3	6	—	0	11	9
Silk, Bengal Skein.....lb	0	13	1	—	0	11	9
— Nova	0	13	1	—	0	11	9
— Ditto White	0	13	10	—	0	11	9
— China	0	4	7	—	0	11	9
Spices, Cinnamon.....	0	4	7	—	0	11	9
— Cloves	0	1	10	—	0	11	9
— Mace	0	4	0	—	0	11	9
— Nutmegs	0	2	9	—	0	11	9
— Ginger	0	19	6	—	0	11	9
— Pepper, Black.....lb	0	0	3	—	0	11	9
— White	0	1	8	—	0	11	9
Sugar, Bengal.....cwt.	1	13	0	—	0	11	9
— Slam and China	1	13	0	—	0	11	9
— Mauritius	1	15	0	—	0	11	9
Tea, Hohea.....lb	0	1	7	—	0	11	9
— Congou	0	2	3	—	0	11	9
— Souchong	0	2	10	—	0	11	9
— Campol	0	2	8	—	0	11	9
— Twankay	0	4	0	—	0	11	9
— Pekoe	0	2	7	—	0	11	9
— Hyson Skin	0	4	6	—	0	11	9
— Hyson	0	3	6	—	0	11	9
— Young Hyson	0	5	0	—	0	11	9
— Gunpowder	1	4	0	—	0	11	9
Tortoiseshell	8	10	0	—	0	11	9
Wood, Sanders Red.....ton	0	4	0	—	0	11	9

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

Oil, Southern.....ton	30	0	0
— Sperme	77	0	0
— Head Matter	76	0	0
Wool	0	10	0
— Blue Gum	0	6	10
— Cedar	0	4	0

DAILY PRICES OF STOCKS, from July 26 to August 25.

July.	Bank Stock.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Consols.	3 Pr. Ct. Red.	N. 4 Pr. C. Ann.	Long Annuities.	India Stock.	India Bonds.	Exch. Bills.
26	211 12	87 1/8	86 1/8	87 1/8	94 1/8	101	20 1/8	252 1/8	87 89p	55 58p
27	—	86 1/8	86 1/8	87	94	100 1/8	19 1/8	253	88 89p	56 58p
28	211	87 1/8	86 1/8	87 1/8	94 1/8	100 1/8	19 1/8	253 1/8	88 90p	57 59p
30	212 13 1/2	88 1/8	87 1/8	88 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	254 1/8	90 91p	58 60p
31	214	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	96 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	258	91 94p	60 61p
Aug										
1	216 17	89 1/8	89 1/8	89 1/8	97 1/8	102 1/8	20 1/8	—	94 95p	60 62p
2	215 16 1/2	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	96 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	263	96p	61 62p
3	214 1/2	89 1/8	88 1/8	88 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	259 60	88 94p	59 61p
4	214 1/2	89 1/8	88 1/8	88 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	259 1/2	92p	60 61p
6	213	87 1/8	86 1/8	87 1/8	94 1/8	100 1/8	19 1/8	20	—	57 61p
7	—	87 1/8	86 1/8	87 1/8	94 1/8	100 1/8	19 1/8	—	87p	57 59p
8	212	87 1/8	87 1/8	87 1/8	94 1/8	100 1/8	19 1/8	—	87 88p	57 58p
9	214 1/2	88 1/8	87 1/8	88 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	19 1/8	256	87 88p	57 59p
10	214 1/2	88 1/8	87 1/8	88 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	256	89p	57 59p
11	214	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	—	90 91p	58 60p
13	215 1/2	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	—	92 93p	58 59p
14	215	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	—	93p	58 60p
15	216 1/2	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	96 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	—	92 94p	58 60p
16	216 1/2	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	96 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	260 1/2	92 93p	59 60p
17	216 1/2	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	96 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	259 60	93 94p	59 61p
18	—	89 1/8	88 1/8	89 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	—	93 94p	61 62p
20	214 15	88 1/8	87 1/8	88 1/8	94 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	—	92 94p	60 62p
21	215 1/2	88 1/8	87 1/8	88 1/8	95 1/8	101 1/8	20 1/8	—	94p	60 62p
22	—	88 1/8	87 1/8	88 1/8	94 1/8	100 1/8	19 1/8	—	—	57 60p
23	—	87 1/8	86 1/8	87 1/8	94 1/8	100 1/8	19 1/8	—	—	57 59p
24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	—	87 1/8	86 1/8	87 1/8	93 1/8	100 1/8	19 1/8	—	89 90p	56 58p

E. Ekron, Stock Broker, 2, Cornhill, and Lombard Street.

